



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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Magdalen Hut, September 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 two pages.

News

New Members Welcome: We welcome three new members to the club this month: Linda Ward, David Anderson and Cas Bunt. Please accept the club's warm welcome to you all.

2012 Mt Somers Challenge: Given the expressed desire of the previous organisers to not organise another Mt Somers Challenge next year, Alastair Brown is wanting to see if there is sufficient interest in running the race in 2012 in a somewhat different format, with these possible changes - (a) teams of 2 or 3 (for responsible, self managed safety), (b) running it clock-wise (so there's a hill at the end to slow us down a bit, or leave the direction to a coin toss immediately before the start), (c) probably no marshals (at the very most, a radio/EPIRB wielding tail-end-charlie), (d) running it in mid January (for the purely selfish reason of being able to make it part of his C2C training), (e) use of digital cameras at specific places for scrutineering and timing (carried and used by teams) and (f) maybe even a change of venue (e.g. Korowai-Torlesse Tussocklands Park). His general idea is to keep the event-management effort to a minimum, changing it a bit to keep it interesting, while still having a bit of fun. The early start for trampers, post-event pot-luck feed and prize giving he envisages remaining unchanged. Please email any suggestions /feedback/encouragements/admonishments to alastairbrown@yahoo.com.au, or phone 343 5111.

Contacting the gear custodian: Our gear custodian Fiona Green wants everyone to know that her email address isn't currently working (should be fixed soon) but anyway she isn't very good at checking emails. If you want to contact her for gear hire, please text or phone rather than email

(home ph 359 5965, mob 027 688 6862). Also, there has been a change in how gear is paid for -- whoever picks up the gear (trip leader or individual) is responsible for paying her when the gear is returned. Charges are at the back of the newsletter.

Obituaries

Stella Woodham: Stella was a member behind the scenes. One of her first trips with the club was the Rees Dart trip in 1953. Shortly after she married Merv and they had 3 children. She was the editor of the substantial edition of the 50th anniversary book. We will always remember her when we read it. Sadly missed, Rex

Tramper of the Month: Thomas Matern

<p><i>Give us the short summary about yourself - job, family, where you are from, etc...</i></p>	<p>Born and bred in Germany, I came to NZ by myself in September 2008. I enjoyed working for NIWA for 2.5 years including many trips around the south island in a car and helicopter. I joined Tait Electronics earlier this year just after I got married.</p>	
<p><i>When did you join the CTC?</i></p>	<p>November 2008</p>	<p><i>Thomas on a "wet feet" tramp</i></p>
<p><i>How did you find out about the CTC?</i></p>	<p>I did a lot of mapping work for openstreetmap.org in the Port Hills and a friend recommended joining a tramping club. It could have been any club but the CTC had the best website. I sent an email to the new members rep. but did not get a reply. Susan later told me that there was another Thomas from Germany asking her at the same time and she thought it was the same person.</p>	
<p><i>Did you tramp before joining the CTC?</i></p>	<p>No. I wouldn't call my walks in the Port Hills 'tramping'.</p>	
<p><i>Who was the first CTC person you met?</i></p>	<p>Probably Adrian. I just went to a club meeting and I think he was the first person I met there.</p>	
<p><i>What was your first day trip?</i></p>	<p>James Youngman's Journey Memorial Walk - a good tramp but not ideal for someone who had already done too many walks in the Port Hills. My second trip was 'Hallelujah Flat' which I really enjoyed.</p>	
<p><i>Your first weekend trip?</i></p>	<p>It took a while until I had all the gear, my first overnight trip was the Three Passes over Easter 2009. Still one of my favourite trips.</p>	
<p><i>Have you served on the club committee?</i></p>	<p>Yes, as a general member in 2009 and as the weekend trip organiser for the second year now.</p>	

<i>Your favourite hut?</i>	I like the new-ish DOC huts, e.g. Crow Hut, Magdalen Hut, but I'm more a tent person and it's not unusual for me to camp just outside a hut.
<i>What are your favourite tramps?</i>	Day tramp: Torlesse - I have done it in summer, in winter and at night and the views are always great. Longer tramp: Most memorable was my trip to the Avoca Hut from the Waimak, mainly because of the tramping party. My favourite theme is hot pools though.
<i>What future trips are you most looking forward to?</i>	I'd love to go back to Welcome Flat and I'm keen to do the Three Passes again.
<i>Your favourite hut?</i>	Lonely Lakes hut, in the Kahurangi National Park.
<i>Have any mishaps or embarrassing/funny things happened to you while tramping?</i>	Nothing I'd like to share here... ;-)
<i>Do you have any other interests?</i>	Cooking, unfortunately.

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.

Saturday 1 October Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Ellangowen Reserve: Often passed by but rarely visited. A small reserve at the junction of Long Bay, Hickory and Summit roads behind Akaroa. Starting up the Takamatua Valley we follow an old stock route (Old Le Bons Track) up to the ridge. Then head along the top to Ellengowan reserve, and explore the 3 bluffs there.....So far so good but there's still more to come. Returning, there are several options and will be dictated by ewes and lambs. The good news is all are downhill. Route finalised Sept 29th	Grade: Easy Closes: 29 Sep Map: BY25 Approx: \$25

Weekend 1-2 October Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Hawdon Hut: We will start at the Hawdon Shelter and follow the Hawdon River upstream to the spacious Hawdon Hut. The track stays in the riverbed all the way so the total height gain on this trip is about 80m. The Hawdon Hut is a quite new 20 bunk hut next to the river with a great view. From the hut there are options to walk up to Twin Falls or even further to a nice tarn on Walker Pass. Please make sure that you have got a valid hut pass or 3 hut tickets.	Grade: Easy Closes: 22 Sep Map: BV21 Approx: \$30 + Accom

Saturday 1 October Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
The Gap: The Gap is the big notch in the Torlesse range visible for miles around and a winter trip there is a real classic. We'll probably go up from Porters Pass (942m) to Castle Hill Peak (1998m) and follow the narrow ridge through to the Gap (1700m). Ice-axe, crampons, and snow skills and experience will be needed. The ridge past Castle Hill Peak has quite steep drop offs both sides. The final section into the Gap, approached by dropping down to the north-west from the bluffs above it, can be anything from easy-peasy to quite tricky depending on the snow conditions. If you have got the skills though, this is surely one of the must-do winter trips.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 29 Sep Map: BW21 Approx: \$25

Tuesday 4 October	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: We will start off on the first Tuesday evening in October, at 6pm. It will continue weekly from there until the end of Daylight Saving. It will be ~ 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. This time, we will 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.	Grade: Moderate Map: BX24 Approx: \$0

Thursday 6 October	Club Night
Tramping in the North Island with Chantal McCarthy: Do you like 80s and 90s fashion? If so, then you're in for a treat! Come and see photos of beautiful North Island tramps we did when I was a kid - complete with the odd perm, karate shoes with black socks and other stunning forms of attire. Family holidays for us were heading off to remote locations and either camping or tramping - Coromandel, Ureweras, Taranaki and Tongariro National Park were places we spent a fair bit of time, so come along, see the sights and laugh at the family pics...	

Saturday 8 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006
Mt Grey: Mt Grey is one of the most accessible of the bumps in the northern foothills and makes a popular easy/moderate trip. There are a variety of routes but one of the best goes from the Grey River carpark up the river and then up a spur to the northwest of the peak itself using the Red Beech track, curving back southwards on the ridge to the summit of Mt Grey itself (934m). There is about 600m of height gain on this route, which is about 7k each way. The bush on this track is beautiful - as well as the eponymous red beech it includes totara, matai, rimu and some kahikatea.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 6 Oct Map: BV23 Approx: \$20	
Saturday 8 October		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Coastal Exploring - Amberley Beach: Starting at the Amberley Beach settlement we follow along the beach on or off a vehicle track to the most Northern end of Pegasus Bay where the Teviot Hills meet the sea. Lunch on the beach then return back to the cars. LITTLEES also BUGGY FRIENDLY tramp suitable for the whole family. Coastal wind can be chilling so be sure to dress suitably, WATER ie. WINDPROOF! Trackshoes ok. More info or any doubts, contact the leader. TecBruce@Gmail.com Finish ~3PM. NOTE - LATE START. Meet 9 am from CHURCH SQUARE in ADDINGTON.	Grade: Easy/family Closes: 6 Oct Map: BW24 Approx: \$10	
Weekend 8-9 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Greg Hill 349-9808 greghill@clear.net.nz
Anne Hut via Henry Saddle and Boucher Saddle: Visit the new Anne Hut on a weekend by crossing two great saddles and enjoy the warmth of the hut at night. Great views, wet feet and moderate scrub bash guaranteed.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 29 Sep Map: BT23 Approx: \$35 + hut fees	
Sunday 9 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
Black Hill: The Black Hill that overlooks the Rakaia, in the Canterbury foothills. It is a long day and a long way, but well worth it. We leave the cars by the Double Hill road and climb up Glenrock Stream to Turtons Saddle (I seem to remember some of the biggest tussocks I have ever walked through going up here) and then continue up the north-west ridge of Black Hill. The summit is 2067m and gives stunning 360 degree views over the Rakaia, the rest of the foothills, etc. From the summit we descend via Donald Hill (500m lower but some of the best views of all) and then back to the cars. The total climb is over 1600m which makes it a moderate-hard trip even though there is nothing remotely difficult - you need to be fit and able to keep going . . . There could be an early start at 7am - make sure you've contacted the leader.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 6 Oct Map: BW20 Approx: \$25	
Tuesday 11 October		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4	Grade: Moderate	

Thursday 13 October		Club Night
<p>Rob Brown from Federated Mountain Clubs: Rob is the local rep for FMC. Find out what your \$10/ club subscription goes toward. In Robs words - Essentially I'm coming along to talk about what FMC is working on for clubs right now and how it is advocating for clubs and to hear any issues that the Christchurch Tramping Club want us to raise.</p>		
Saturday 15 October		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Mt White: Mt White, 1741m, is at the more strenuous end of moderate just because of the height gain (about 1200m height gain from the cars) and length (15-20 k depending on our route on the day) but it is a lovely place with great views. We'll be able to make a loop with some good tops travel and a return on a 4wd track in the Esk Valley.</p>	Grade: Moderate	Closes: 13 Oct
	Map: BV21	Approx: \$25
Weekend 15-16 October		Leader: Chantal McCarthy 360 3752 chantal.mccarthy@amcor.com
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Mt Fyffe: Leave town Saturday morning - coffee at Kaikoura then the hard work starts with a 900m climb to the Fyffe Hut. Hopefully beautiful views over the Kaikoura peninsula, sunset and sunrise. Depending on the group out the same way or down Spaniard Spur and out the Kowhai river bed.</p>	Grade: Easy/Mod	Closes: 6 Oct
	Map: BT27	Approx: \$45
Sunday 16 October		Leader: Greg Hill 349-9808
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Sudden Valley: Sudden Valley is the home of a lovely little river, Sudden Valley Stream, which provides a very good summer water-and-rock-hopping trip. After crossing the Hawdon River we start up the Stream itself - multiple crossings back and forth, scrambling round a few easy bouldery sections, passing lovely pools and splashing rapids, a few diversions into the bush . . . There is a short steep climb of a couple of hundred metres to negotiate the Barrier Falls gorge and then we descend again and soon afterwards emerge into the more open river flats and stunning scenery of upper valley with Mts Wilson and Scott above us. We head to the new Sudden Valley Biv for lunch and then travel back the same way.</p>	Grade: Easy/Mod	Closes: 13 Oct
	Map: BV21	Approx: \$20
Tuesday 18 October		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.		Grade: Moderate
Thursday 20 October		Club Night
<p>Nepal Treks with Emma and Maggie Brown: Are you considering going trekking in Nepal? If so our presenters will be able offer some choices along with a slide show of the options.</p>		

Long Weekend 22-24 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
1000 Acre Plateau: Join Bernhard on this long weekend on a trip up the 1000 Acre Plateau. Leaving on Friday evening with a camp along the way and head up early to Matiri lake. From there lug our packs on to the 1000 acre plateau & wander around aimlessly discovering things. Back Monday.	Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)	Closes: 13 Oct Map: BR23 Approx: \$50+Accom
Saturday 22 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Mt Lyndon: Mt Lyndon (1489m) is - unsurprisingly - right next to Lake Lyndon, at the other side of Porters Pass. It's a nice little trip, looking out towards Castle Hill Peak and Torlesse one way, and the Porter Heights ski area the other. About 650m of height gain, untracked but through relatively easy sub-alpine scrub, and about 8 k.	Grade: Easy/Mod	Closes: 20 Oct Map: BW21 Approx: \$20
Long Weekend 22-24 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
Hawdon - Edwards: This trip didn't go on the Easter weekend, let's hope the weather is a better this time. Experience a great back country trip at an easy pace. Day one is easy river travel up the Hawdon and a short climb to a tarn just below Walker Pass (12km distance, 500m vertical). On the second day we will head down into the west branch of the Otehake River and then climb up an unnamed creek to Tarn Col and make our way down a steep, bad scree section to Taruahuna Pass. We will camp in the Edwards valley (6km distance, 400m vertical). The last day we will follow the track down the Edwards to the road (10km). We will run this on an easy pace, but you will have to carry part of a tent, food for 3 days and cold weather gear, and you will get wet feet each day as there are dozens of easy river crossings each day. If there is still snow around we will stay in the Hawdon Hut and the Edwards Hut which makes the second day a bit longer.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 13 Oct Map: BV20 BV21 Approx: \$40	
Tuesday 25 October		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.	Grade: Moderate	
Thursday 27 October		Club Night
Newsletter folding night: After we have folded the newsletters we will have some social time		

Saturday 29 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Antony White 381-5993
Travers - Trovatore: Travers Peak (1724m) is just above the Lewis Pass Highway, accessed from the west via a nice bush track. From Travers we can descend a couple of hundred metres and trot over to Trovatore (1737m) and then - conditions allowing - head north-east along the ridge to pick up a nice descent into a stream. That takes us down to the Maruia and thus we can pick up the St James back to the Lewis Pass carpark. Height gain about 1000m+, and ice axe and crampons may be required. Early start - contact leader, and this trip could go on Sunday instead, depending on the weather.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 27 Oct Map: BT23 Approx: \$35	
Weekend 29-30 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Brian Dougan srotje@yahoo.com
Klondyke Valley / Lake Stream: The Klondyke Valley is a family destination, the Lake Stream Route is a bit more demanding and Brian will make it even more interesting by climbing over the tops between these two valleys. Be prepared for a great and possibly epic trip.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 20 Oct Map: BT22 Approx: \$40	
Sunday 30 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Port Hills Education: Omaha Bush: Here's an opportunity to learn about the various plant communities in Omaha Bush, 'top to bottom', also Informed of work here and plans for the reserve's future management. Alice Shanks, from the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust and Paul Tebbutt, convener of the Friends of Omaha Bush will be our informative guides from Coopers Knob to the foot of the reserve. This will show us the variety of native flora from the snow tussock and silver tussock around the Summit Road and the top of the reserve, via the mid-level Kanuka to the superb examples of remnant and rejuvenating Podocarp forest. Including the plants that are typical of Port Hill rocky outcrops if Gibraltar Rock is open. NOTE: Meet at Shell Papanui at 8:30am.	Grade: Easy Closes: 27 Oct Map: BX24 Approx: \$10	
Sunday 30 October Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366
Mons Sex Millia: Mons Sex Millia is 6000 ft high (hence the name - 'the 6000 bump' translates - roughly - to 'mons sex millia' in Latin) but for those of you used to this new-fangled metric system you get a rather-less-readily-translatable 1840m. We will approach and return via Carlyle Stream on the south side of the main ridge. Long day tramping (8-10 hours), much bush-bashing, and around 1400m height gain. Bring ice-axe. Should be great! Note: early start.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 27 Oct Map: BU23 Approx: \$25	
Tuesday 1 November		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.	Grade: Moderate	

Thursday 3 November	Club Night
<p>Stone walls and Roman roads: a taste of hillwalking in the UK with added historical flavouring by Jenny Harlow: Walking in the UK might not have the same spectacular scenery as we get here, but there are many lovely areas and all are indelibly etched by many hundreds of years of human habitation. Intrigued by the thought of The Corpse Road? Wonder what the Romans were doing on the High Street? Impressed by 40m high railway viaducts over 150 years old? Mind-boggled by the thought of 180,000 miles of dry stone walls? Come along to see and hear a few edited highlights of a recent trip to the UK.</p>	

Saturday 5 November	Leader: Alastair Brown 343-5111
Departure point: Shell Papanui	
<p>Mt Rolleston: When you look up 'Mt Rolleston' in Freshmap, it gives it the category 'hill', which seems a bit understated for something 2275m high. Note that this needs snow skills, appropriate experience, ice axe and crampons. We will be leaving on Friday night and staying at the club hut, unless there's sufficient interest in leaving Christchurch at 5am on the Saturday. Note - this trip is rescheduled from the August one that was canceled.</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard (requires snow skills)</p> <p>Closes: 3 Nov</p> <p>Map: BV20</p> <p>Approx: \$25</p>

Sunday 6 November	Leader: Antony White 381-5993
Departure point: Shell Papanui	
<p>Pinnacles Hut: Pinnacles Hut is a fairly easy walk into the base of Mt Somers. The track follows a stream and goes over two easy hills, ending at the hut which is used as a base for rock climbers for the nearby Pinnacles on the side of Mt Somers.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+</p> <p>Closes: 3 Nov</p> <p>Map: BX20</p> <p>Approx: \$25</p>

Multi day trip 6-11 November	Leader: Craig Beere 381-0839
Departure point: Contact Leader	
<p>havokk@ihug.co.nz</p>	
<p>Milford Track [list closed]: Craig has walked all the Great Walks except the Milford. It is time to tick it off. Come and join him on a trip described as 'the finest walk in the world' by the poet Blanche Baughan in 1908. The plan is to drive to Te Anau on Sunday 6 Nov, walk the track over the next four days, then drive home on Friday (Canterbury Anniversary Day). Optionally we can spend a night in Milford Sound and go for a cruise. Will require 4 days off work.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod [Closed]</p> <p>Map: CB08</p> <p>Approx: \$450</p>

Tuesday 8 November	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
<p>CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.</p>	Grade: Moderate

Long Weekend 11-13 November Show Weekend Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz	
Inland Pack Track: Being cut in 1860 as an alternative way along the Punakaiki coast, it is very unlikely that you will find a car on the Inland Pack Track now. We will leave on Friday morning and, after a car shuffle, walk up the Fox River towards Ballroom Overhang. On the way we will have a look at a large cave. We'll spend the night either under the overhang or in our tents. On Saturday we will travel down the Dilemma Creek Gorge and camp near the Bullock Creek Submergence. On Sunday we follow the track to its southern end at the Punakaiki River, stop for some pancakes at Punakaiki before heading home. There is hardly any height gain on this track, start and end are at sea level and the highest point is just under 200m. This trip is subject to weather conditions - many of the rivers can not be crossed during or shortly after rain.		Grade: Easy+	Closes: 3 Nov
		Map: BS19 BS20	Approx: \$60
Saturday 12 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. Then tramp up the Jollie Brook River branching off to Cold stream. 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. In the event of high river levels this tramp will be exchanged with Mount Eleanor.		Grade: Easy	Closes: 10 Nov
		Map: BU26	Approx: \$25
Sunday 13 November Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: David Sutton 348 5998	
Otarama: After a stroll up the pretty little Kowai river to the huts we start the real thing - up the long southwest spur of Torlesse to the summit (1961m, about 1300m total height gain, which makes it a bit more strenuous than some moderate trips). Then, from here we'll go along the ridge to Otarama, a peak to the NNE, and only 2m higher than Torlesse itself. Be prepared for an early start as it will be a long day...		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 10 Nov
		Map: BW23	Approx: \$15
Tuesday 15 November		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.		Grade: Moderate	
Saturday 19 November Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce James 332-3473	
Mt Hamilton: This is a classic Craigieburns biggie (1922m), which can be approached from a couple of different directions: either from the Broken River side over Nervous Knob or from Camp Saddle. Superb views from the top on a clear day over Cass Saddle towards the Black Range, and Lake Pearson and Flock Hill to the east. Around 1000m height gain, depending on where we park. It is often windy up there so make sure you have all those warm windproof layers.		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 17 Nov
		Map: BW21	Approx: \$20

Sunday 20 November Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Richard Kimberley 326 6158
Avalanche Peak: We'll be going up Avalanche Peak (1833 m, about 1000m height gain) via Scott's Track. This track begins just north of the village and climbs through beech forest and then follows a poled route up the north-eastern spur of the Peak. There are some narrower sections near the summit. Arthur's Pass is a spectacular place in the winter and the top of Avalanche is THE place to be able admire it all from. Make sure you have an ice axe. Check with leader about crampons. Avalanche Peak is not named that for nothing: the leader will be checking with DOC on snow conditions and the trip may go elsewhere if necessary.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 17 Nov Map: BV20 Approx: \$25
Tuesday 22 November		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.		Grade: Moderate
Saturday 26 November Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
Mount Eleanor: Starting inland we tramp on tracked and untracked coastal farm country to the Waiau River's mouth then return via Mount Eleanor. Located South above the Waiau River giving views over the North Cheviot Plains and the Waiau River's Pacific confluence. This tramp may be exchanged with Cold stream Hut if river is up.		Grade: Easy Closes: 24 Nov Map: BU26 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 Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686
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 knarly 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.		Grade: ModHard Closes: 24 Nov Map: BV20 Approx: \$25
Tuesday 29 November		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb - every Tuesday: See October 4.		Grade: Moderate

Saturday 10 December Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
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 Gray and Keretu. Following on along the ridgeline we then descend down to McDonald Downs and off for rehydration or perhaps ice creams.	Grade: Easy Closes: 8 Dec Map: BV21 Approx: \$20

Trip Reports

3-4 September 2011

Magical Magdalen Hut



Boyle River and Poplars Range

7.15am Saturday morning and the outside temperature was 2 degrees. Moss, Anand and myself piled into Thomas's comfortable warm car and headed for the hills. Having already determined the weather was better east of the main divide the Croesus Track was being left to explore on another occasion. Our first task was to decide on a new location. Our first destination turned out to be the Culverden store where funnily enough we bumped into other CTC members on their own adventure.

Arriving at Boyle car park there were two other vehicles so a tent and mattresses were quickly added to packs. Fun was made of the tourists, a week earlier, whom left nothing but complaints of mud and fallen trees in the intentions book. We had a cruisy four hour walk to the Magical Magdalen Hut and our journey was blessed (in our eyes) with elements of a fabulous day; gorgeous weather, great company, grand views, glistening patches of snow and occasional gurgles of mud. Clambering over a couple of fallen trees that had recently succumbed to the weight of snow or windfall wasn't a problem.

The hut was stunning in a wonderful setting and just a few years old it's presentation was friendly and inviting. So to were the lovely kiwi couple we shared it with. We wiled away the afternoon relaxing in sunshine, playing mastermind on the deck, taking photos, collecting firewood (which was ample) and even managed a snowman.

By evening the hut was a 'hot box' with it's double glazing and highly efficient fire. CTC members seemed to have a very generous supply of chocolate, chips and caramel popcorn....(thanks guys) and yes.... we did manage a healthy meal in between. I was well impressed with the wide ranging variation of conversational topics from the frivolity of Bollywood, descriptions of prospective future trips for the "To Do List", right through to cell phone radiation and international politics.

Next morning the temperature was cold with a good frost on the ground. We arose with the daylight looking forward to another delightful day ahead. The walk out was enjoyable and seemed to go very fast. Hence we found ourselves dining on fish and chips at Culverden for Sunday lunch. Thank you guys for a happy and memorable trip.

Trampers: Thomas Matern (leader), Moss Hosseinzadeh, Anand Gudimanchi and Kim Swarbrick (scribe)

4 September 2011

Boundary Creek Hut

22km, 750m cumulative height gain, 6 ½ hours

On a lovely sunny day, 3 of us headed up to the Hakatere conservation area. Shortly after turning onto the road to Lake Heron, our access track turned off across the tussock, only we missed it since it is unmarked and hard to find. We found ourselves at the bridge over the South Ashburton, and had turn around finding it exactly 1.4 km back down the road. The access track is good for 2 wheel drive for about 3km in dry conditions. 4WD access looked okay for the remaining km to Paddle Hill Creek and gate.

The trip follows the easy 4WD track to the hut across treeless tussock land. The track showed evidence of recent frosts and snow as it climbed gently from 700m to the high point at 957m in 8km. Another recently marked track appears to lead off through the valley north of Mt Guy possibly heading for Lake Clearwater. Just before dropping down to the hut we noted the marked track that heads off for Mystery Lake and on to The Potts river.

The old corrugated iron unlined hut has an open fire and was tidy inside with 6 new bunks & mattresses and a well fitting (fixed) door. It also had a small comfy sofa which we carried outside for a very comfortable lunch in the sun. The hut is in a lovely sheltered spot by the creek.

To make the return trip more interesting we returned over Dogs hill. The views of the snowy tops all around were uplifting with the jagged Mt Arrowsmith range off to the North west. After 300m of climbing we gained the top of the hill and stopped a while to take photos. Then we strolled along over easy terrain heading for the high point of Dogs hill. Just before we got there, we spied a promising looking route down to regain our 4WD track. This route down was mostly straightforward except for a very narrow band of Matagouri at the bottom of the hill. This we negotiated by going under it on our bottoms.

Looking back at Dogs Hill from further down the track it looked as though just following the main spur down would have been fine.

I had a great day in an area of the Hakatere that I have not visited before. Thanks to Brian for leading the tramp. I got home tired but very happy to have been in the hills after too long out of them.

Trampers: Brian Dougan (leader), Thomas Huang, Susan Pearson (scribe).

10 September 2011

Latter Hill

14km 400m cumulative height gain, 5 hrs.

On a fine Norwest day 15 trampers met up in the usual place and headed out to Woodstock.

After a short walk up the road (to the jet boating operation) we headed up through some trees keeping close but not too close to the river (cliffs), then we crossed a paddock, took pictures of cows and followed a 4 WD track to a spot where we had good views of the Waimak twists and turns (those poor old coast to coasters!) and across to the snowy Torlesse range. A train very obligingly popped out of a tunnel and chugged along high up the bank on other side of the river - would have been very scenic, had it been a steam train day.

Then up over tussockland to a higher spot a bit further along (NE) where some snowy peaks further inland could be seen. One of these we agreed must be Binser. We speculated about

mountain biking alongside the railway tracks and if permission was required. We realised how close we were to Kennebrooks hut and talked about access from the Wharfedale.

Lunch out of the wind saw a discussion on the weight to nutritional benefit ratio of grapes vs tuna and other similar silliness and then we wandered on up to point 621. Unfortunately this seems to have been deer fenced off making an alternative route back that Bruce had in mind impossible.

On our return the friendly farmer dropped by for a bit of a yarn to see how we had got on. Then we managed to persuade the reluctant staff at Seagars to sell us a cup of coffee (and we really didn't smell very much at all) and then headed on home.

It wasn't a long tramp or a remote or challenging tramp, but it was tramp that afforded some unusual views of some familiar parts of the country. It promoted discussion and caused a few plans to be hatched and that's got to be good. So thanks Bruce for a pleasant day out in a norwester with a bunch of pleasant people and some super views.

Can't remember the names of all the 15 trampers but they included Bruce Cameron (leader) Rachel, Karen, Susan (scribe), Brian, Dave, Mike, Malcolm, Lisa, Jonathon, a young couple, a German who likes to be licked by (European) cows and uncle Tom Cobbly and all.

18 September 2011

Mt Binsler



Binsler summit through misty cloud



Approaching the third peak

Dear Aunty Ice Axe

Can you recommend a cure for jet lag?

Yours

Chronologically Confused

Dear CC

Try a CTC trip - fresh air, good company - blow out the temporal cobwebs and recalibrate your geographic alignment all in one.

Aunty

So, I duly found myself one of Bryce's band of 10 for Mt Binsler. Quite possibly Aunty did not have a ModHard trip in mind when she dispensed her advice, and I omitted to mention to her that I have spent 10 weeks doing pretty much no tramping: 'A bear, however hard it tries, grows tubby without exercise*'. Not to mention unfit. It was however very well worth the effort of hauling the additional bits of bear over the three peaks of what Silvia aptly termed 'Binsler and co'.

Bryce's cunning plan to accommodate the anticipated afternoon north-wester was to reverse the route we have often used before and start from the Mt White road, ascending via the south-west spur of Binsler. That gave the option of descending via the south-east spur to do a small horseshoe if the weather packed in earlier than expected, but we also left Silvia's car at the Binsler Saddle

track end as a testament of faith in being able to do the ridge walk and descend via the saddle. There is actually a small 4wd-type track heading across the flat towards Binser from the road (not shown on my map) which we followed to reach the base of the spur.

Things started well, with a very nice animal track leading us upwards. Very shortly, however, it became clear that the animals concerned were considerably shorter than trampers, and probably not burdened with packs sporting ice-axes and crampons and other goodies suitable for getting entangled in scrub... The party paused at the point where the Nice Path became a Very Small Tunnel through the matagouri and kitted up with protective layers of goretex jackets (no wonder that people complain that they leak) and thick gloves, and then plunged bravely forth, led by the intrepid Jeff. Above the scrub the snow was lying from about 1000m upwards, but either in shallow fluffy layers over rocks or nicely consolidated. The conditions were in fact pretty much perfect for that ascent route, the scree sections being made much easier by the nice covering of snow.

Christina took the opportunity to do some cramponing practice; the rest of the group felt happy without the spikey footwear and Sam had taken the precaution of wearing plastics anyway. By the time the last of us ('A bear who lets its fitness drop, may take some time to reach the top'...) had made the summit (1860m) the wind was sharpening and the others had had their lunch so we descended to the little saddle between Binser and point 1831m where Christina and I sat down to scoff ours and refused to be put off by the sight of people putting on their packs again. Richard K, Jeff and Lynette naturally stoutly denied any intention of bolting off immediately and kindly played in the snow until we were ready to leave. The sun stayed out, the snow stayed good (although Sam's plastic boots also stayed in the slight overkill department) and followed the lovely ridge up over 1831 and on to 1700 (aka Baby Binser or the Third Peak). Christina was eventually persuaded to relinquish her crampons in favour of attempts to glissade on the remaining snow patches as we headed down towards Binser saddle, but the snow was just a little too old to support reliably even the feather-lights like Silvia and Lynette, and also confounded Richard L's attempts to bound over it too fast to fall through ...

Once at the bushline Jeff again took the lead and the rest of us struggled and floundered after him in the morass of fallen trees, regrowth, mud, and man-trap rotten snowdrifts ('A bear, now a little tired, gets ratty when completely mired'). Ever reliable, he managed to make a beeline for the Binser Saddle track and soon we were all lolloping out. Richard K and Silvia kindly went ahead to unwind the car shuffle and the rest of us allowed Murray to find all the particularly slippery bits first as we followed him down.

A short walk from the end of the track to the Mt White road got us there about 5 pm - and with perfect timing Richard K had just pulled up in his behemoth ute. A quick change in the by-now-very-bracing early evening breeze and scramble back into the vehicles and we were heading for Springfield and a resorative cup of tea ('A bear, now struggling for a rhyme, can find Mt Binser hard to climb'...)

Many thanks to Bryce for a great route and the usual inspired leadership. Trip participants: Bryce Williamson, Sam Newhouse, Christina Zablan, Silvia Horniakova, Richard Kimberley, Richard Lobb, Murray Gifford, Jeff Hall, Lynette Hartley, Jenny Harlow (scribe).

* A.A. Milne

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
23 October 2011 – Thanks.
