



THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC
PO Box 527, Christchurch. www.ctc.org.nz

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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No. 8



Returning from Mt Torlesse (Sept 2009)

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 \$45 member, \$65 couple, \$25 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 four new members to the club: Andrew Pratt, Mina Sayedi, Max Kummerow and Jean-Luc Devis. Please accept the club's warm welcome to you all.

New "Safety in the Mountains" Booklets available for purchase from the CTC: Stock has arrived at the club of the new "Safety in the Mountains" Booklet, published by the FMC. We will be selling them, only at club nights, to members at the low price of \$5 each. Please see the Treasurer, and other committee members. We will also be giving some away to some new members and attendees of club training courses - watch this space for further details. The booklet is just a brief introduction/summary of key safety issues in the mountains, and should be combined with training courses, further reading, and experience. Consider taking one with you on your next tramp.

CTC OVERDUE TRIPS: Members/family/partners or a nominated person concerned about a trip being overdue should firstly discuss this with a Club Officer when they feel that the trip is delayed. Refer to the list of Club Officers on the back of the newsletter and on the club website. Club Officers know where to obtain copies of the Trip Lists containing the

names and addresses of the party members with their vehicle registration details etc. This will greatly assist Police Search and Rescue. The Club Officer can then contact the Police directly. Concerned people should keep trying different numbers until they actually contact a Club Officer (DO NOT LEAVE MESSAGES). We recommend that concerned people start with the Club Captain, then the Gear Custodian, then the Presidents, then the Trip Organisers, then people listed under Our Club Hut - if no contact can be made then the Police. Members (particularly Trip Leaders) please discuss this arrangement with your loved ones so they are aware of this procedure.

Calendar of trips and Social Events

Trips: Unless otherwise stated, club trips depart either from 'Z' Carlton Corner Service Station (formerly Shell) 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 'Z' 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 Jim Western 377-5431 or email Jimwestern@xtra.co.nz. 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.

<p>Saturday 1 December Departing Christchurch on the previous evening Departure point: To be arranged by consensus of participants</p>	<p>Leader: Richard Kimberley 326 6158</p>
<p>Mt Rolleston: This trip has been deferred a couple of times earlier in the year due to inclement conditions. The intended ascent route via the Otira Slide involves a sustained climb in excess of 1400 m and steep and exposed in some parts. Participants will need snow skills, appropriate experience, ice axe, crampons and a helmet. We will be leaving on Friday evening, staying the night at the club hut in Arthurs Pass and starting early on Saturday morning. Depending on the weather forecast, the trip date could change to Sunday.</p>	<p>Grade: Hard / Climbing Closes: 29 Nov Map: BV20 Approx: \$35 + hut fees</p>

Weekend 1-2 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au	
I Love Kaikoura base camp: Leaving Saturday morning, travelling to Oaro and walk to Haumuri Bluffs - easy flat walk, look for paua, back same way and onto Kaikoura South Bay for night's accommodation. Sunday at your discretion - coffee in town or Kaikoura walkway from South Bay to town, lunch at house, clean up and leave		Grade: All / Family Closes: 22 Nov Map: BT27 BU27 Approx: \$50+Accom	
Weekend 1-2 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: William King 03 3578922 Bill.King@enable.net.nz	
Potts Hut: Saturday - morning leave Chch and walk up the river to the Potts Hut. Sunday - options include Big Hill at 2102m or other more relaxed excursions. Then back out to the cars via Dog Range. Potts Hut is about 12+kms and a 900m height gain from the bridge. Ice tools/attachments may be required for Big Hill. No hut tickets required.		Grade: EasyMod to Moderate depending on route Closes: 22 Nov Map: BX18 BW18 Approx: \$35	
Saturday 1 December [or possibly Sunday] Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce James 332-3473	
Ben More via 13 Mile Bush: At 1655 m, Ben More is (marginally) the second highest point on the Big Ben Range. The normal CTC approach to this "peak" is via the long, open tussock-clad loop from the Lyndon Road. But for a change, we'll be conducting this assault from the other side of the range, using the 13 Mile Bush Track. [Note: this trip might move to Sunday 2 December, depending on the weather forecast; check with the leader.]		Grade: Moderate Closes: 29 Nov Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	
Wednesday 5 December		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
CTC Hill Climb: Now starts at 6pm on Wednesday evenings, and lasts for 60-70 minutes. It involves ~ 1 hour of brisk walking, on and off trail, up and down hills in the Mt Vernon Park area. Grade Moderate. We meet at the corner of Hillsborough Tce and Heybridge Lane just before 6pm. No trip list. Just turn up.		Grade: Moderate Map: BX24 Approx: \$0	
Thursday 6 December		Club Night	
Annual BBQ - Heathcote Valley: 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 Gondola). Aim to arrive after 6:30pm. BBQs will be arranged. Bring all your own food and liquid, chairs + any sports gear for soccer or cricket, croquet etc....A great social time to catch up and celebrate the positive rebirth of Christchurch.			

Saturday 8 December (long day) Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531
Ada Pass Hut: Ada Pass is the barely noticeable highpoint between the headwaters of the Maruia (right branch) and Ada Rivers. At 1008 m, it is a relatively low route over the main divide and was a commonly used by pre-European Maori. The route to the pass follows the St James Walkway, starting from Lewis Pass. It goes through the beautiful and historic Cannibal Gorge. The hut is sited in a stunningly scenic area below Three Tarn Pass and the spectacular peaks of the Spenser Mountains. The return distance is about 25 km. Although the track is straightforward with little in the way of ascent, it will be a long day (after including the road travel) so the departure time will be 6.30 am.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 6 Dec Map: BT23 Approx: \$35	
Saturday 8 December 9 am start		Leader: Bruce Cameron Txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Coastal Exploring - Pegasus Bay Walkway: Another of Bruce's coastal exploring series. Pegasus Bay Walkway starting at North Beach along the coastal reserve track in the sand dunes to lunch at Spenser Park. Return is along the beach. High tides at 5:16 am and 5:49 pm give us low tide around midday; PERFECT! Height gain: 10m. Distance:12 km. OK for kids and buggies but check with the leader first (TecBruce@Gmail.com). NOTE LATE 9 AM START	Grade: Easy/family Closes: 6 Dec Map: BW24 Approx: \$6	
Sunday 9 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Lake Rubicon & Beyond: 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.	Grade: Easy Closes: 6 Dec Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	
Wednesday 12 December. CTC Hill Climb: See description at 5 December for details.		
Thursday 13 December		Club Night
Steven Fortune is the 2012 Black Diamond Alpinist of the year: Steve will share with us some of his tramping and mountaineering adventures. Starting in the local hills in Arthurs pass, moving to greater Southern Alps, then adventures overseas in Scotland, the European Alps, the Himalaya, Alaska and Patagonia, then travelling full circle on first ascents back in the NZ mountains. he will showcase both the finest mountain scenery in the world, as well as what's right in our backyard.		

Saturday 15 December Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344
richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz

<p>Mt Barrosa: 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 1811 Peninsula Wars version - New Zealand was, after all, originally a colony . . . Those just there for the tramping can enjoy the 800 m climb on mostly open tussock hillside with good views all the way up. Given suitable enthusiasm, energy levels and access permissions, we'll continue beyond the summit in a small horseshoe over pts 1355 and 1321 to descend the spur to the bottom of Waterfall Stream.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 13 Dec Map: BX19 Approx: \$25</p>
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Saturday 15 December Meet at 1 pm! Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>River Crossing Course: As suggested by a club member we will try an afternoon river crossing session this year. River crossing skills are essential to safe tramping in the New Zealand back country, and even in the front country! With our network of unbridged rivers this knowledge for all grades of trumper is an absolutely basic skill. So, particularly for new members and particularly if you are from overseas, this course is for you!</p>	<p>Grade: Training Closes: 13 Dec Map: Approx:</p>
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You will need a complete change of clothes, towel, lace-up boots and a weekend-size pack stuffed with material within a fully sealed pack liner. The pack must have the bulk and weight of a normal two-day tramping pack. Wear tramping clothes made from fleece, polypro' etc. (merino is acceptable) but definitely not cotton! A warm jacket is also advisable. Refreshments are also a good idea. Presently the club is looking at the skill levels of our trip leaders, and knowledge of river crossing on all grades of club trip has been highlighted. So if you are a trip leader, come along to refresh your skills and keep up your competency! Names on the trip list and please contact the instructor if in doubt about anything - and note the meeting time of 1 pm.

Weekend 15-16 December Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531
lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>Peel Forest Base Camp: Leave Saturday morning, climb Little Mt Peel or do one of the several walks there at your leisure. Shared meal BBQ that night suitable for families. Sunday check out Giant Totara tree, Denniston walk and giant Mt Peel lillies at Acheron homestead. Cabin accommodation booked at \$22 per person per night, or you welcome to tent.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/family Closes: 6 Dec Map: BY19 Approx: \$40 + Accom</p>
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Sunday 23 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com
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<p>Pudding Hill Dessert: Nature supplies the Hill - you supply the pot-luck pudding! The Pudding Hill range runs between the North Branch Ashburton River and Pudding Hill Stream. Pudding Hill itself (868 m) is at the south-west end of the range and gives great views out over the plains, Mt Hutt, Mt Alford, etc. Just to the north-west and on the other side of the stream are Pudding Hill Reserve and the Awa Awa Rata ('Valley of Rata') Reserve. We will work up an appetite by traversing the ridge, mainly using farm tracks, until lunch. Lunch will of course consist of puddings: bring your favourite pud (with bowl and spoon) and share around for a delicious mid-winter feast. The return will be a digestion-compatible amble, perhaps on another farm track. Technically an EASY tramp mostly on farm tracks with to 480 m height gain. Don't forget to bring your potluck pudding to share.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 20 Dec Map: BX20 Approx: \$25</p>
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Monday 24 December	Christmas Eve Meal
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To be Advised: Christmas Eve evening meal.

Please see the club email that will be circulated to state the time and location.

Unfortunately the restaurant booking I had confirmed before this newsletter has just been cancelled, as they have decided not to open on December 24. As with past years, some may go onto the Carols by Candle Light. For all those that can't make it, have a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Thursday 27 December	No Club Night
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No club meeting, Christmas break: We are still out tramping.

Christmas trip, round about 27-30 December Actual dates are open for discussion. Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: William King 03 3578922
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<p>Christmas Trip - Mackenzie Country Trip - Opportunity to see some new terrain: This route has an exceptional combination of tramping and alpine terrain, with the intention to top out onto the Liebig range with views seldom seen into the Murchison Glacier and Mt Cook ranges. Travel down to Lake Tekapo and the upper Godley Valley to Rankin Hut, on the Godley Peaks Station side of the Valley. Route - Rankin Stream, below or over the Huxley and Faraday Glaciers, Kehua Pass, Jollie Saddle and down the Jollie River to the Mt Cook Station Road end. Either arranged 4WD transport up the Godley Valley to Rankin hut or a day's walk in up the valley. 3+ days of tramping, depending on weather and transport logistics. Please contact Bill ASAP if you are interested!</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard to Hardish Closing date to receive interest is 13-December! Map: BX16 BX17 Approx: \$TBA</p>
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Saturday 29 December	Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com

<p>Waipara River Exploring - Whites Gorge: Another of Bruce's river exploring series. More of a social trip with an opportunity to cool off in the Waipara River at Whites Gorge. Here's a new route that doesn't involve the Deans 573 m, (Gaelic for hill) which are optional for those who are so inclined. On rolling farm country past the Waipara lakes, below or perhaps along the escarpment (seen from Doctors Hills tramp) then through the gorge between limestone bluffs where you will get wet. (Dry bypass track is available.) It's a good place for lunch and a cooling swim. Bring spare clothes to leave in cars. River skills NOT needed. OK for kids but not buggies CHECK WITH LEADER FIRST (TecBruce@Gmail.com). If the river is unsuitable on the day, an alternative will run. Height gain: 200 - 400 m, distance 14 km but may be reduced considerably on the day.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 27 Dec Map: BV24 Approx: \$20 + gold coin for Cankids</p>
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Multi day trip 29 December-4 January	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
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<p>STOPPRESS: Something in Nelson Lakes NP: An email from the leader reads "I'm planning to do a moderate tramp around Nelson Lakes NP, starting Sat 29th Dec to Fri 4th Jan '13. Hope to cover a wide area of NP doing a round trip. Contact me for further details." So ... do as the man says.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 20 Dec</p>
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Thursday 3 January	No Club Night
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No club meeting, Christmas break: We are still out tramping

Saturday 5 January	Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531
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<p>Port Levy to Hilltop: This walk traverses the backbone of Banks Peninsular, passing (nearly) over Mts Fitzgerald (826 m) and Sinclair (841 m). There are fantastic views of the northern bays, Lake Forsyth and Akaroa Harbour. Along the way you'll see the ghostly skeletons of giant totara, as well as some beautiful remnant stands, especially near Waipuna Saddle and Whatarangi Reserve.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 3 Jan Map: BX24 BX25 Approx: \$20</p>
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Sunday 6 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
River Exploring - Waipara River: Another of Bruce's river exploring series. A tramp down a picturesque river gorge with some nice cooling off spots. Definitely a wet feet trip - bring spare clothes to be left at the cars. If conditions are unsuitable an alternative will run. Height gain 100m - 500m; distance 12 to 16 km. OK for kids, but CHECK WITH THE LEADER FIRST (TecBruce@Gmail.com).		Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 3 Jan Map: BV23 Approx: \$25	
Thursday 10 January		Club Night	
First club night of 2013: Being the first official club night of 2013, this will be a social night, to catch up. Find out about some of the adventures, trials and tribulations club members have had over the festive season.			
Saturday 12 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: James Hopkins 03 9628572	
Big Ben via Dry Acheron Stream: This is a fairly new DoC track and one that has probably not been done before as a CTC trip. Starting from the Lake Coleridge Road it permits fairly direct access to Big Ben. The track follows the Dry Acheron stream (don't be fooled by the adjective), climbing gently for about 2 hours until striking up the spur to Big Ben (1416 m). The return journey can be hastened by following a well-formed paper road from the bottom of the spur.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 10 Jan Map: BW20 BW21 Approx: \$25	
Saturday 12 January		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360	
Pompeys Pillar, Red Bay, Shell Bay: Pompeys Pillar is a little island just off the headland to the north of Otanerito Bay. This coastal tramp will then go on to Red Bay (popular with seals) and then on to Shell Bay (opportunity for a swim). Expect around 4 to 5 hours walking and a 6 to 7 hour day in total. Easy travel on farmland and QE-2 covenanted reserves, with a few ups and downs.		Grade: Easy Closes: 10 Jan Map: BY25 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 12-13 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Li Li 021 236 3211 ahhlili01@hotmail.com	
Lake Christabel, Rough Creek: This trip failed to go twice last year due to bad weather. Hopefully it will go ahead this time. Easy beech forest tramping on Saturday, though it's quite a long way in to the hut at the head of the lake. The route out on Sunday is via the poled route up and over the tops to Rough Creek, which is likely to be over grown.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 Jan Map: BT22 BT23 Approx: \$40	

Sunday 13 January 9 am start Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
Coastal Exploring - Brooklands Lagoon: Along the Pegasus Bay Walkway starting from Spenser Park and following a 4WD track in pine-covered sand dunes to lunch at the mouth of the Waimakariri River's. Return is along the beach. High Tides are at 6:16am and 6:40PM giving us low tide about noon; PERFECT! Height gain: 10 m, distance: 8 km. OK for kids and buggies but CHECK WITH THE LEADER FIRST (TecBruce@Gmail.com). NOTE THE LATE 9 AM START.		Grade: Easy/family Closes: 10 Jan Map: BW24 BW24 Approx: \$6	
Sunday 13 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931	
Princess Bath: Mt Princess is a high peak (2126 m) north west of Lake Tennyson and directly north of Maling Pass. Tucked into a cirque on its southern slopes, and about 400 m below the summit, is a large and spectacular tarn called Princess Bath. We will approach this objective from the Clarence River by following the course of Princess Stream. Swimming togs are optional. Note that this will be an early start.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 10 Jan Map: BT24 Approx: \$40	
Thursday 17 January		Club Night	
Auction Night: The club will be selling of some of its gear and this will also be an opportunity for you to sell some of that pre-loved tramping gear. Club gear up for auction (reserve priced) includes one pair of plastic climbing boots (men's UK 9), clip-on crampons and a pair of light weight tramping boots (men's UK 9). Successful bidders will get the items they have bid for once a cash payment has been made on the night. Any other agreements are at the discretion of the seller. Club members have first priority for the auction of retired club gear.			
Saturday 19 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
Coastal Exploring - Goughs Bay: Originally the Okaruru Pa site now inhabited by sheep with the seashore real estate taken up by seals. Birds occupy the cliffs and we get to ramble through this country with its amazing cliffs, caves and wildlife. Height gain 300 m, distance 10 km.		Grade: Easy Closes: 17 Jan Map: BY25 Approx: \$20	

Saturday 19 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz	
Mt Somers: Mt Somers is a prominent and popular tramping peak projecting out into the plains from the foothills west of Methven. It's of geological interest as well, with the Mt Somers volcanic being active in late Cretaceous times (100-56 million years ago). The intended route will be from the Sharplin Falls Reserve past Pinnacles Hut to ascend one of the easier ridges to the summit (1689 m). We will then descend via the poled route to the south, over Staveley Hill and Hookey knob.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 17 Jan Map: BX20 Approx: \$25	
Weekend 19-20 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Andrea Zahn 382 1044 andi.zahn@gmx.de	
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: 10 Jan Map: BS21 BS22 Approx: \$50	
Sunday 20 January		Leader: Antony White 03-550-7166 phoenixantony@gmail.com	
Mt Hutt (via Little River): Starting from where the Little River flows into the Rakaia, we will climb the dog-leg spur gaining the ridge south of Mt Hutt, which is about a 1700 m climb (so you will need to be fit) then continuing north along to the ridge to a scree slope shortcut back to the cars as a reward for the climb. The club has not run this trip for some time, but hopefully the snow has melted by then, so you won't need your skis!		Grade: ModHard Closes: 17 Jan Map: BX20 Approx: \$25	
Sunday 20 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: James Hopkins 03 9628572	
Rabbit Hill: Rabbit Hill is a regular CTC target, the last knoll on the ridge stretching south west from Porters Pass, just before climbing up to the Big Ben Range proper. The intended route is to ascend to Trip M from the northern end of Lake Lyndon, and then to traverse along to Rabbit Hill. The return will be along the shores of Lake Lyndon.		Grade: EasyMod Closes: 17 Jan Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	
Wednesday 23 January. CTC Hill Climb: See description at 5 December for details.			

Thursday 24 January Club Night

WheretheheckisitStan: Lynette and Jeff have recently returned from three months tramping and travelling in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and western China (formerly called Turkestan). Kyrgyzstan has got to be one of the best tramping destinations in the world with easily accessible mountain areas, fantastic scenery, friendly local people and not too many other tourists. Come and hear all about it and find out where the heck these countries are anyway.

Saturday 26 January Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>Mt White: This trip was originally scheduled for November, but postponed due to lambing. Mt White stands on the corner between the Pouter, Waimakariri and Esk Rivers, overlooking Mt White Station and Lake Letetia. The trip is at the more strenuous end of moderate because of the height gain of about 1200 m height gain (from the cars) and length (15-20 km depending on the route on the day); but it is a lovely place with great views. With sufficiently purposeful travel, we'll be able to make a loop, travelling north east along the tops and returning on a 4wd track down the Esk Valley.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 24 Jan Map: BV21 Approx: \$35</p>
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Saturday 26 January Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
newmike@slingshot.co.nz
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>Pudding Hill Stream: This gives us a varied round trip in the Mt Hutt forest, starting in the Awa Awa Rata Reserve and walking up the Scotts Saddle Track to the ski field road through mixed forest and then tussock tops - height gain around 600 m. From the road, we follow a track through forest to reach Pudding Hill Stream which we follow for about 6 km and then back to the reserve. Round trip approx 12 km.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 24 Jan Map: BX20 Approx: \$25</p>
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Sunday 27 January Leader: Andrea Zahn 027 635 6703 or
382 1044 andi.zahn@gmx.de

<p>Mt Grey & the Grey River: Mt Grey/Maukatere is a fairly regular CTC target involving a moderate (~700 m) climb of the prominent hill directly west of Amberley. Normally the loop back to the cars is completed via the Red Beech Track. However, if the day is warm we will consider the option of returning along the Grey River. This is a fairly easy river trip, with some pretty gorges, a couple of unchallenging waterfalls and a number of deepish pools. A change of clothing and a dry bag to protect your camera are advised.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+ (water trip) Closes: 24 Jan Map: BW23 Approx: \$25</p>
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Wednesday 30 January. **CTC Hill Climb:** See description at 5 December for details.

Thursday 31 January	Club Night
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Newsletter night: Hot off the press will be the first print run for 2013. Be the first to read about what adventures occurred over the Christmas period, and be inspired to make the best of the long hours of daylight tramping opportunities, and get your name down on the trip lists.

Saturday 2 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com
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<p>River Exploring - Selwyn Gorge: Another of Bruce's river exploring series. We follow the Selwyn River from near one of its sources through a gorge section with lots of cooling of places. Definitely a wet feet trip. Bring spare clothes to be left at the cars. If the river is unsuitable an alternative trip will run (Moorehouse Range?). River crossing skills are not needed) Height loss, 40 m; distance, 16 km.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy (water trip) Closes: 31 Jan Map: BY21 Approx: \$25</p>
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Multi day trip 2-7 February 5 to 6 day trip between 2nd to 10th Feb Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Jeff Hall 338-0922
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<p>Garden of Eden: Heading up the Rangitata river, Clyde river, Perth Col and explore the Garden of Eden ice plateau. Requires some fitness, snow and rope skills for glacier travel and ability to forget the drudgery of hours spent walking up river beds. Numbers limited.</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard Closes: 24 Jan Map: BX18 BW18 BW17 Approx: \$40</p>
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Sunday 3 February	Leader: David Sutton 021 1808081
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<p>Sudden Valley to the Waimakariri: Sudden Valley Stream is a deeply gorged tributary of the Hawdon River, which it enters just before the Waimakariri River confluence. The valley is a popular destination for CTC trips, either as a trip in its own right or as an exit route after passing over The Pyramid. This trip is a bit more ambitious. After climbing through the valley, we will make our way up the un-named creek just below the Sudden Valley Biv, on the true right of the main stream. At the saddle near 1500 m, we will turn south east, following the high ridge over Pts 1804 and 1720 m and then bush bash down to One Tree Swamp on the north bank of the Waimak. From there it's a gentle traipse back to Hawdon Shelter along grassy river flats. Expect a fairly long day at least 20 km of travel and ~1500 m height gain. Our leader has promised that there will be no bush-lawyer this time!</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 31 Jan Map: BV21 Approx: \$25</p>
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Wednesday 6 February. CTC Hill Climb: See description at 5 December for details.

Thursday 7 February Club Night

Adrian Busby Presents "Survival Shelters and Bivi Bags my 40 year search": Come hear about the years of hardship and survival as Adrian painstakingly tested to the extreme everything from a large paper bag through to the latest in all weather, all terrain Gucci bivi bags, that are a must for the fashion conscious survivalist.

Saturday 9 February Leader: Michael Newlove Note: 7.30 am departure 355-8360
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

Woolshed Creek Hut, Bus Stop Overhang, Rhyolite Ridge: This gives us a varied round trip following the Mt Somers Walkway from the Woolshed Creek car park up through bush and then open sub alpine herbfield to the Woolshed Creek Hut -- 350 m height gain. On the way, we will look at the old coal mine workings. From the hut, up to the Bus Stop Overhang - 500 m height gain from the hut. From there it is down the Rhyolite Ridge back to the car park. Note the early departure time of 7.30 am.

Grade: Moderate
Closes: 7 Feb
Map: BX19
Approx: \$25

Weekend 9-10 February Leader: William King 03 3578922
Bill.King@enable.net.nz
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

Hut Spur, Jordan Saddle, Black Range: Leave Chch on Saturday morning. Start from Bealey Corner/pub and head up Hut Spur to the Jordan Saddle and then to the Black Range. The campsite is located on the Eastern side of the Black Range and has good views at 1500m with several tarns to cool down in. Return on Sunday via Jordan Stream to Bealey Corner, with a compulsory stop at Springfield. This tramp will be paced to enjoy the views. It is approximately 14kms to the campsite with a gain in height of 1000m. If summer arrives!!!, and the weather is hot, we might consider leaving Chch a bit earlier to avoid the heat. A one day trip option up Hut Spur could be considered if the weather looks doubtful.

Grade: EasyMod+
Closes: 31 Jan
Map: BV20
Approx: \$35

Sunday 10 February Leader: Andrea Zahn 382 1044
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

Blimit: It's not Mt Blimit or even Blimit Peak. Just "Blimit" is apparently a contraction of someone's thoughts about the climb many years go. At 1921 m, it's one of the higher peaks on the eastern side of Arthurs Pass, with spectacular views of Mt Rolleston, the Aicken Range and the main divide. The ascent route will start from the Punch Bowl Falls car park, climbing steeply up Cons Track and over Mt Cassidy. Return options are the reverse journey, or dropping through Bill's Basin and the Temple Basin Skifield complex, then walking back to the cars via the shady Bridal Veil Track.

Grade: Moderate
Closes: 7 Feb
Map: BV20
Approx: \$30

Wednesday 13 February. CTC Hill Climb: See description at 5 December for details.	
Saturday 16 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron txt 022 188 5905 or ph 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Coastal Exploring - Squally Bay: Starting at 300m on easy farm country (tracked and untracked), we descend to the east headland of Island Bay then follow the coastal cliffs, descending further to Wakamoia Bay. Continuing on round Wakamoia Reef along the cliff tops towards Rocky Nook and perhaps a little further to the next point before heading back to the cars. This section of the coast has some amazing cliffs and rock formations.	Grade: Easy Closes: 14 Feb Map: BY25 Approx: \$20
Weekend 16-17 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686 atromans@gmail.com
Barker Hut: This hut is in a really beautiful part of Arthurs Pass. Moderate trampers can visit one of the nearby passes for some stunning mountain views or just laze around the hut enjoying the alpine ambiance. The more energetic (mod-hard) types have the option of returning over Mt Harper. Ice axe and crampons required.	Grade: Moderate to ModHard Closes: 7 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$30
Wednesday 20 February. CTC Hill Climb: See description at 5 December for details.	
Weekend 23-24 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006
Cass-Lagoon: A popular trip to the luxurious Hamilton Hut. After the car shuffle we usually start at Cora Lynn, over Lagoon Saddle and down the Harper River to the Hamilton Hut. Sunday starts with a steep climb up Cass Saddle followed by a cruisy walk in/along the Cass River back to the road. Side trips up Mt Bruce are available for the more energetic on the trip. An annual hut pass or 3 hut tickets are required to stay at this hut.	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 14 Feb Map: BV20 BV21 BW20 Approx: \$35 + hut fees
Weekend 23-24 February	Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686 atromans@gmail.com
The Thumbs: Interesting rock formations in the rarely visited Two Thumb range. Fun for anyone who enjoys a bit of rock scrambling. Friday night departure for a camp near Lake Tekapo. Ice axe and crampons recommended. Helmet essential.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 14 Feb Map: BX18 BX17 Approx: \$60

Multi day trip 1-8 March Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au
<p>Great Ocean Road (Oz!): 2013 Trip to Great Ocean Rd. Tentative itinerary: 3 days in Grampians then back to Melbourne for 2 nights to visit Port Nepean and Phillip Island. Cost: about \$700 + air fare (includes vehicle hire, backpacker accommodation, food allowance of \$30 per day). Dates in March or May as school holidays in April. See: http://www.grampiansnationalpark.com/grampians/national/park/walks.asp</p> <p>Contact Liz by email if interested. Spaces left for two at this time.</p>	<p>Grade: All Closes: 21 Feb Map: N/A Approx: \$TBA</p>

Trip Reports

19-20 October 2012

Ngakawau base camp

Five of us left on Friday to stop overnight at Reefton backpackers...which we had to ourselves.

Rain was predicted for the coast so what a nice surprise when we arrived Westport to Blue skies ... then before going to the house we went to investigate the Millerton incline ... then onto our little abode for two nights ... All going TOO well ... Alas ... key does not work the lock ... mobile phones have no coverage ... lady for house away till Monday ... WHAT TO DO!!!! Ahah, a 44 gallon drum there so we rolled it over to a tiny window and leader Liz attempts to go head first in ... but the drop was too far to the toilet and no holders beside toilet to use as brace ... luckily Noelene being petite could squeeze in and unlock the ranch slider

Quick unpack then up to Denniston pleateau while the weather was good ... amazing views and relics from the past.

Back to house for the night and rain started and continued most of night so the next day the Ngakawau gorge was AMAZing, as were the waterfalls and spray off them ... the rain had stopped ... so on the way back the waterfalls were much less spectacular. What a lovely day up Charming creek walkway ... then down to Mokihinui river mouth.

Evidently a mini Tornado went thru Sunday night where we were staying but we were not even aware of it ... maybe the roar of the beach drowned it out ... a quick trip to cape Foulwind on the way home and it lived up to its name.

Another lucky escape for us courtesy of Noeline when someone nearly put petrol in my deisel vehicle and Noeline sitting in the back noticed ... HALLELUJAH...God bless Noeline. Trampers Marion Beedle, Noeline Marsh, Astrid and Gonzalo and Liz Tanner (leader and scribe of sorts).

20-22 October 2012

Broderick Hut, Huxley River

Our hoped for destination this Labour weekend was Mt Brewster, but the long and short range weather forecasts indicated that it would be stupid to go there. Instead, we opted for the upper Lake Ohau area – Broderick Hut via the Hopkins then Huxley Rivers. The plan was to base ourselves at/beside the hut for 2 nights, with day trip to Mts MacKenzie or Strauchon – either peak obtainable from Broderick Pass.

On Friday evening I was running late at work, and got home with packing not completed. My ride turned up shortly after, and I frantically chucked gear in the back of the car. Driving down Brougham Street, we discussed whether we needed harnesses and ropes. And Silvia asked me that important question: “have you got your boots and gaiters?” A few minutes later we turned around and went back to get them. Andy kindly said that the trip hadn't started yet.

On Saturday morning we woke up at the Lake Ruataniwha Motor Camp in bright sunshine, re-confirmed the weather report and destination with a vast array of smart phones and electronic equipment, and set off. Leaving one car at the public road end, we piled into 2 x 4WD vehicles and drove 1.5km to Monument Hut, stopping a couple of times to straighten a bracket under the Honda CRV with a climbing sling (James immediately cemented his hero status by finding the problem and the solution), and otherwise getting out of the Honda regularly to increase the ground clearance over obstacles. Meanwhile, Steve's Toyota Ranger blasted along fearlessly, path-finding the way.

Kitting up in cold wind, sun gone, we hefted our loads up the Hopkins River bed and turned left before the Huxley gorge to catch the track to the bottom swing-bridge over the Huxley. After crossing this one person at a time, we waited in the sunny grassy river flats beyond the forest of the bridge area and had morning tea/first lunch – while we waited and waited for the 2 tail-enders. Just after we sent out a 1-man search party, Cristina and Bassam appeared from quite a different direction out of the trees, to our relief, and vigorous re-calling of the search party ensued.

The sunny break in the clouds was soon replaced by clouds, cold wind, and then rain. I think that the next time we felt sun was 2 days later in the same lunch spot on the return leg. So this is a tale of cold, lots of snow, wind, rain, lots more cold, cloud, rare glimpses of blue sky and jagged peaks, river banks and boulders, flood tracks through bush, large avalanche debris flows that had swept down to the river from the mountain heights - and it was always beautiful and enjoyable.

We arrived for second lunch at Huxley Forks Hut in the cold rain and wind. I was Andy's cook for the trip, and he requested a cup of tea so (what could I do?) I boiled the billy for two. The warmth of the drink was good. Just after the hut was the second and final swing bridge. Beyond, the track wove in and out of the river shore - sometimes climbing through bush.

Eventually, 2 of the party, who had been here many times before, continued up the edge of the river shore while rest of us followed the track which climbed up and down through bush beyond a large washout and returned at some point back to the river.

They reached the hut before the rest of us to find a group of 4 in the cosy 6-bunk Broderick Hut. Silvia had selected this hut well, as it had a wood burner pumping out delicious heat.

Fortunately for the incumbent 4, they had already enjoyed a peaceful night at the hut. Then the remaining 10 of us turned up in dribs and drabs and squeezed into the hut for a while to warm up, dry out gear, and cook. Moving around in the hut required ~4 people to move at any one time - we quickly became more considerate of others.

Shortly after we arrived at Broderick Hut, wet and cold, most of us had to put up our tents. Camping under the trees beside the hut was pretty much the only option, so the spots were not the best. But the worst of it was the cold as we put up the tents. It was very close to freezing, drizzling, breezy, and I had wetted out my next-to-skin clothing and had very cold hands (self-inflicted, as I had not put my waterproof thermal mitts on during the tramp to the hut). Putting up the tent was just torture. Eventually my hands and arms trembled as I tried to get them to close clasps that were normally a doddle to close, and the pain was intense. We had more or less got the tent up when I could not do any more and retreated to the hut to warm up and change my upper body layers. But I still needed to change my lower body layers, so returned to the tent to complete the change and found it gratifyingly warm compared to the outside air.

The next day, Sunday, we assembled outside for our day excursion after breakfast in the hut. The incumbent 4 wisely decided to move on to another hut in another valley, and left before we did. We walked north, passed another massive avalanche debris field, to the base of the poled route that led up to Broderick Pass, and then agreed to split into 2 groups and meet up back at the hut. Silvia, Jeremy, James, Angela and Andy were the 5 going up towards the pass as far as they could, and the other 7 (me included) going for a wander up to the head of the valley.

Mixed weather today, with patches of blue sky in one direction and hail and cloud in another. The wind came and went, the drizzle, snow, and cloud the same. My group enjoyed themselves, taking our time, and wondering what we might have done had the weather been better. We reached the shriveled and pathetic remains of the glacier in the head of the valley floor, and then leader Cristina got out her whip and urged us on to the top of the snow covered moraine wall and kept us moving along it northwards until we could go no further. The wall was an impressive distance above the valley floor, which spoke of former glacial glory and global warming.

Returning to the hut, we met the other 5 who told us of thick snow and violent winds unapparent to us in the valley - they did not reach Broderick Pass. So we settled, in the warm hut, into an easy time of chit-chat, camaraderie, and brew-ups. Jeremy held court, keeping us entertained with his sense of humour and sanguine wit. As topics changed, some comments went below the line (of acceptable tolerance to the participating audience) and with audience participation Jeremy's comments returned to the right side of the line and lightness and fun prevailed.

This night, 7 of us slept in the warmth and comfort of the hut – Silvia off the floor on a double layer of Exped Downmats with some 14 cm of cushioning.

On our last dawn of the trip, we breakfasted, packed, and assembled outside in the drizzle for photos beside the hut. We had thoroughly enjoyed our stay here, but it could have been better with better weather. We returned the way we had come, but tending to stick to the river edge more to save time and because it was fun. Some of us eschewed the swing bridge and flood track before Huxley Forks Main Hut, and easily crossed the cold river.

Sun was now shining at the Huxley Forks, and boded well for the walk out beyond. We had a break at the hut, while we waited for the flood track group to arrive. Continuing on,

Silvia, Jeremy, and Warwick stopped regularly to admire the scenery, take photos, and enjoy the sunshine. They caught up to the main group at the sunny lunch spot on the grassy river plain just before the gorge and second swing bridge.

As we got under way again, the sky clouded over and darkened. Turning the corner in to the Hopkins was like entering a different world. In no time at all, we were leaning in to strong wind, full rain gear on, with heads down or face protection on to protect eyes from stinging graupel. Then the wind dropped, and fat flakes of snow dropped out of the low grey sky in great quantities. Visibility dropped appreciably. It was delightful! We enjoyed the juxtaposition of heavy snow falling beside a waterfall which drained in to a wide river plain.

Arriving at Monument Hut, we decided to put all 12 packs into the storage section of the Ranger, and put 8 people in to the passenger part. The remaining 4 people would walk beside and sometimes ride in the CRV – until we reached the public road. We were in high spirits as we got a ride over the river bed. I wish I had taken a photo of Silvia planking out of the rear passenger window. As the last vehicle departed Monument Hut, a flapping figure dashed out of the trees, chasing hard, and managed to flag it down – Cristina was lucky she was seen.

We had a great time, and some have already decided to return.

We were: Max De Lacey, Silvia Horniakova, Jeremy Herbert, James Hopkins, Steve Bruerton, Clive Marsh, Andrew Tromans, Angela Lowery, Andy Morris (NZAC), Bassam Magzhal (Non-member), Cristina Zablan (leader), & Warwick Dowling (scribe).

27 October 2012

Woolshed Creek Hut

Seven of us set off to go to Woolshed via the busstop but after 1/2 hour up the track we met a hunter who said he had sat just below the ridge line and listened to the gale force nor wester...ate his lunch and decided to come down ... so after a team consult we decided to value his opinion and retreat to the usual track.

Uneventful trip into the hut with Les leaving after eating lunch to get back to Chch early..the rest of us explored around the area and were grateful that the rain that we could see very close actually never quite got over to us.

We returned via the side winder track that wound its way down to the river ... and our legs all felt it the next day!!!

Trampers were Jean-Luc Devis, Alison Doward, Doug Hueston, Les Grant, Michael Parker and Liz Tanner

4 November 2012

The Pyramid

After another good dump of snow on the Torlesse Range on the previous day, expectations were high that we would be encountering some of the white stuff up on The Pyramid and so 11 of us set off from the Hawdon Shelter loaded with crampons and ice axes as we couldn't quite see the conditions of the tops due to the patchy cloud cover, although indications suggested we probably wouldn't need them.

After a chilly crossing of the Hawdon river and Sudden Stream, we donned our boots and

melted into the woods looking for the rough track that would take us up the nearest spur to the tops. The track is unmarked and patchy in places but was relatively easy to follow and we made good time to the bushline where we stopped for lunch in partial sun and a cold brisk breeze. Fortunately the cloud had lifted by this time, most of the fresh snow had melted and the crampons and ice axes never left our packs as we followed the ridgeline northwards, enjoying the great views up Sudden Valley and across the Hawdon etc. After hitting The Pyramid at point 1608, we continued along past point 1565, looking for the scree to take us down to Sudden Valley. Some of us popped up to what I believe may have been point 1594 where we encountered a lone Kea perched on a rock. After afternoon tea, we bounded down a very good scree slope where we undid hours of hard slog in a matter of minutes in an exhilarating downward plunge. The rest of the day was spent negotiating our way down Sudden Valley, which was more challenging than this scribe remembered from his last visit, although comment was made that the water level was quite a lot higher than normal due to the recent rains and snowmelt. We arrived back at the cars by around 6PM.

For more photos see Rodney's Blog at: <http://roddus.blogspot.co.nz/2012/11/the-pyramid-5th-november-2012.html>

Trampers: Bryce Williamson (Leader), Pete Eman, Bernhard Parawa, Lynette Hartley, Jovan Andric, Clive Marsh, Alex Ashworth, Xiaoqiu Jiang, Stew Smith, Andrew Tromans, Rodney Erickson (Scribe)

10 November 2012

Orton Bradley to Mt Herbert to Packhorse to Gebbies Pass

TOO HOT TOO SOON...maybe that was the main complaint for the day...where was the cloud cover till noon?

7 members and two visitors started out from the impressive Orton Bradley Park. Following the valley track alongside a stream and through some impressive gum trees we broke onto farm land, starting the gentle long climb up. Leader was equipped with pruners after her last experience here putting your arms over your face and pushing through the gorse but this time an obvious amount of track clearance had been done until we reached a nice patch of NZ stinging nettles that the newcomers were acquainted with.

We found a shady spot to stop for morning tea and Les with his altimeter said we were more than half way to summit ... then some of the group including leader slowed more than occasionally did Mt Herbert get higher with the quake or does one year older do this to you or no real climbs for a few months??????

Great views all round at the top the leader left to retrieve cars with David Cooke and the others feel I had the easier trip back, due mainly due to gorse as they dropped down to packhorse hut. They were told to toughen up.

After complaints of hardship, cramps and other rubbish we stopped at SHE cafe where most things were forgotten.

Trampers were Les Grant, David Cooke, Andrew Tromans, Lovisa Eriksson, Jean-Luc Devis, Michael Parker, visitor Ray friend of Michael Lavarias and Liz Tanner (leader and scribe).

12 November 2012

Mt Cheeseman

12.3 km and ~1240 m height gain over 6.5 hours.

The planned trip for this day was to climb Norma, near Lewis Pass. But the weather forecast was poor so Leader Richard decided that we might as well be miserable closer to home. The weekend before he and Cathy Harlow had scoped out a trip to Mt Cheeseman, one of the over-2000-m peaks on the main spine of the Craigieburn Range. It took little effort to convince the other seven trampers who congregated at Carlton Corner that a repeat of that trip would (probably) be in the lea of the nor'wester, and we were off to pick up Marion at Springfield.

Mt Cheesman has not been a common target of CTC trips, but has become more accessible in recent times with the opening of the Hogs Back cycle trail. The car park at the start of this trail is just north and east of a low limestone ridge called Hogs Back; it is reached by travelling about 5 km up the Mt Cheesman Road, turning off to the left just before the road crosses Tims Stream.

By 9.45 am we were zigzagging our way along the trail through tussock and occasional stands of manuka and beech around the northern end of Hogs Back. About a km along the gentle ridge stretching west behind Hogs Back, we departed from the trail (before it descends to Waterfall Stream) and followed an unmarked track over the southern branch of Tims Stream and up a short, sharp ridge that leads towards Pt 1950 m. At about 1400m, we left the ridge, turning directly towards Mt Cheeseman and crossing a broad basin partly filled with avalanche debris. At midday, having scrambled up a steepish gully, we reached a tussocky oasis in the scree at about 1700 m, where we settled for a leisurely lunch.

After lunch we donned wind-proof gear, took out ice axes and climbed 200m through soft snow to an upper basin, immediately under the target summit. Another 100m climbing, with regular changes of step-pluggers, brought us to the summit where the views were grand but the northwest wind was very strong (though, remarkably, not too cold). We could see northeast up Hamilton Creek and over Cass Saddle; and southwest down Ryton Creek and the Harper River to Lake Coleridge and Gargarus, respectively. Mt Olympus stood imposingly no more than about three km away, with easy-looking ground in between. But the wind was uncomfortably strong and soon drove us back into the shelter of the upper basin.

Richard L suggested that we take an alternative descent route along the southeast ridge of Mt Cheeseman. This turned out to be an inspired decision. First we had a series of long, smooth bum-slides, in near perfect snow, down to a pretty part-frozen tarn. From there we picked up a broad scree slope that allowed a rapid and knee-friendly diagonal descent of a couple of hundred meters. From the bottom of the scree we then had an easy walk through open beech forest before picking up the Hogs Back cycle trail on the tussock flats above waterfall creek.

By now the weather had improved very significantly. We were well out of the wind and it was sunny and hot, so spent some time rehydrating, changing clothes and enjoying the sun, before embarking on the leisurely 45 minute trudge back to the car park.

Thanks to leader Richard Lobb for a well organised day and to Richard and David Sutton

for driving.

Participants: Richard Lobb (leader), David Selway, David Sutton, Liz Page, Marion Beedles, Richard Kimberley, William Godsoe, Xiaoqui Jiang and Bryce Williamson (scribe).

17-18 November 2012

Punakaiki base camp

We made good time to the coast Friday where we were greeted to an I LOVE THE COAST fine day. Stopped for a break at Arthurs where the keas had tried to inspect and test the strength of Liz's van while the others went for coffee.

Stopped for tour of the pancake rocks and then the Pororari River walk to see where it joined the start of inland pack track...it was a fine day so after we stopped at Truman Track...where Andrea knew of this hole that it was hard to get through so we tested two guys for speed and agility...no one else volunteered.

Impressive roar of surf and carving out of coastline there...then we had lost a lot of time so went onto the house to hear ooh and ahhs arriving about 5 pm...it was even nicer than the website looked. After relaxing exploring, tea was about to be served just as Jonathan and Lili arrived...they had left Thursday night to spend time at Charleston helping with some caving project.

Quiet relaxing evening, and the next day we started the Inland Pack Track from Bullock Creek to Fox river. The forecast rain did not start until later in morning...Jonathan had us on a few diversions looking at caves and glow worms. Fossil Creek was amazing with a lot of tree obstacles to navigate around but truly splendid scenery...then down Dilemma Creek with its amazing towering cliffs to the Fox River.

Leader Liz did not want to go to some waterfall so left the others to do the extra kms ...and she thought she would have one hour on the others so could walk back to the house and shower before being disturbed...so imagine her surprise when, after a private moment in the bush, another member appears ...saying he had lost the others...asked if they knew where he was he said No.... I said that they would be looking for him and hopefully would guess that he had found his way out.

We left our backpacks by Jonathan's car so he would know both of us were out OK and then walked the 5 kms along the road to our house. Member was spoken to by others about just staying if they feel lost.

Another relaxing night after great food...next day we headed to Charleston where Jonathon took us to hole in wall and looking at other caves...lunch at Contance bay where our lovely fun day then deteriorated into a deluge. but the blow holes were amazing.

We did a quick trip up Nile valley to look at Limestone formations but unfortunately the rain was so intense and the van so steamed up we did not really see much except some black water cavers leaving in their little train to head off into where!!!!

Then homeward bound...brief stop at Reefton...Jovan drove my van some of way back that was a great relief.

Thanks to all lovely company on weekend

Trampers were Jovan Andric, Dan Slater, Lili, Andrea Zahn, Jonathon Carr, Bruce Cameron and Liz Tanner

Classifieds

Classified Ads: Are available to CTC members at no charge.

For Sale: 2 x Garmin GPS units:

Garmin GPSMAP 62S with Garmin maps included on SD card.

Brand new - in the box - still has factory screen protector on it, never been in the field. High spec unit with built in 3-axis tilt compensated compass, barometric altimeter. If you want to know more ask me I can point you in the right direction for information - you can even have a demo at a club meeting. Unwanted gift (from garmin - who were trying to win me over after terrible customer service). However I am going fully iOS for my GPS/mapping so I won't be using this). Typical retail is about \$500 - \$600 new for the unit + \$299 for the Garmin maps (Note Freshmaps are better and cheaper!), however I wish to sell this unit including the maps as I have no use for them. As a guide these are selling on Trademe for about \$650 with maps. I am willing to take a bit less for club members - after all trademe fees are about \$35!!! - Make an offer.

Garmin Map 60CSX

A few years old, but in very good condition. Similar in specs, but a bit older than the 62S. Still a very high spec highly capable GPS with barometric altimeter, compass etc etc etc. Very accurate, very quick, well featured GPS. Compatible with FreshMaps and other GPS compatible maps. Includes Garmin Pouch with belt clip (a bit worn - but still serves to protect the unit and provides a means to carry on waist etc). Also includes Car windscreen suction mount. Was over \$700 new and has served me very well over the few years I have had it. Also has Memory Map Topo4GPS maps loaded on SD card- RRP \$199. I will consider any reasonable offers from club members for either unit. If unsold within 2 weeks of this ad I will flick them onto Trademe.

James Hopkins 354 3239 029 770 7973snikpohsemaj@gmail.com

More about the CTC

Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<i>New Members Reps:</i>	Liz Van Ekeris and David Cockeram	337-0948
<i>Senior Vice President:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Bryce Williamson	351-6366
<i>Junior Vice President:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<i>Weekend Trip Organiser:</i>	Thomas Matern	354-4309
<i>Secretary:</i>	Li Li	021 236 3211	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Jim Western	377 5431
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Andrea Zahn	382 1044	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Thomas Matern	354-4309
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Adrian Busby	325-5001	<i>Editor:</i>	Sam Cook	322-7793
			<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196

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 Bernhard Parawa 981 4931; 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 the hut convenor, Steve Bruerton, ph 322 6196.

Equipment Hire: The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Thomas Matern, ph. 354-4309. 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	Free
Personal locator beacons	Free

Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor (editor@ctc.org.nz) by 27 January 2013 – Thanks.