



# THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC  
PO Box 527, Christchurch. [www.ctc.org.nz](http://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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*Ridge Scrambling on Goat Hill*

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.

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## News

**Club Hut lock:** A digital lock on the Club Hut at Arthurs Pass is to be installed shortly, replacing the current key lock. This means that if you are planning to use the Hut you **MUST** contact the Hut Convenor before leaving Christchurch to obtain the current combination (or you may find yourself out in the cold ...).

**New Committee members:** At the recent Annual General Meeting the club elected the following new committee members: Mark Campbell, Morwenna Hicks, Jacqui O'Neil, & Nigel Cox. Welcome aboard! Many committee roles have changed hands: for the list of current club officers, see page 16.

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## 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 Alan Ross 384-6425 or email alan.d.ross@orica.com. Please note that formalities start at 7:50 pm sharp, and if there is a guest speaker, he/she will start at 8:10 pm sharp.

Thursday 31 May	Club Night
<b>Newsletter folding + Bali:</b> After the newsletter is folded Rex Vink is going to take us to the part of Bali you do not see on TV. Apparently it's Green and lush! Let's find out	
Saturday 2 June	Leader: Antony White 381-5993
<b>Mt Philistine:</b> Matthew Arnold (Victorian writer, poet and general self-confident arbiter of what's-what in the late 19th century) characterised the aristocracy as Barbarians, the middle classes as Philistines, and the working class as the populace. So today we attempt the middle classes, all 1967m of them. The Philistine bluffs have a bit of a reputation but there is a good route up through them for the cognoscenti, and after that there is more rock and scrambling to Philistine itself. Those happy on rock that may move of its own volition will have a great day, with views to die for, a nice energetic scramble, and a bit of class rivalry thrown in. And of course the admiration of the too-fat-to-fly kea in the village as you relax in a virtuous glow afterwards with tea or ice-cream...Please note, helmets will be compulsory on this trip, and please let the leader know in advance if you need one.	Grade: ModHard (requires snow skills) Closed: 31 May Map: BV20 Approx: \$30
Long Weekend 2-4 June Departure point: 'Z' Papanui	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931 bernhard.parawa@cdhb.govt.nz
<b>Big Tops/Taramakau/Otehake area:</b> Leaving town on Friday night 1st June, 7pm, to stay at the club hut. On Saturday head up to Townsend or Koropuku hut, tramp along the tops and head down to the Otehake hot pools. Out on Monday. At the time of writing ice axe and crampons are not required but that may change - contact leader.	Grade: Moderate Closed: 24 May Map: BU21 BV21 Approx: \$40

Sunday 3 June		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360	
<p><b>Peak Hill:</b> Take a drive out to tranquil Lake Coleridge and climb the Peak Hill (1240m) - Pat Barrett rates it 'unequivocally outstanding' as a viewpoint and a 'special place for mood and light' and he has surely seen a few of the best! There is good access via a well graded track up to a small saddle from where you can see into both the Rakaia and out over Coleridge. From the saddle we'll continue up through the tussocks to the broad summit at 1240m, to give about 600m height gain altogether. A great trip at any time of year.</p>		<p>Grade: EasyMod          Closed: 31 May          Map: BW20          Approx: \$25</p>	
Thursday 7 June		Club Night	
<p><b>Camino de Santiago de Compostela - a Pilgrim's Progress. The Way of St James:</b> Anne Corcoran and Susan Cotton have both walked this pilgrims trail from France, across the top of Spain to Santiago de Compostela on separate occasions. Not only did they enjoy spectacular scenery and meet interesting people but they were able to get a feel for the endurance required when walking for weeks on end (5 in all). The route is still alive with people walking, riding, and crawling(!) today even though it has been established by the 12th century. The trail has attracted great wealth over the centuries which is expressed in the incredible architecture and flamboyance seen in the churches and monasteries along the way. This is in great contrast to the simplicity of the pilgrims' journey Susan and Anne experienced. Come and hear their story.</p>			
Saturday 9 June		Leader: Alastair Brown 343-5111	
<p><b>Mt Binser:</b> Mt Binser is a commanding peak above the Mt White Road with panoramic views of the south-east Arthurs Pass National Park area. We start up the Binser Saddle track to the saddle (1085m) where we leave the track, heading up firstly through bush and then open slopes to pt 1753m. A few k's of superb ridge travel then brings us to the main peak (1868m, 1350m total height gain). With a car shuffle at the start we'll be able to drop down to the south-west to the road. Snow skills and snow toys probably required. Check with leader for an early start and helmets may be required.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate+          (requires snow skills)          Closes: 7 Jun          Map: BV21          Approx: \$20</p>	
Weekend 9-10 June Departure point: 'Z' Papanui		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz	
<p><b>Lake Christabel, Rough Creek:</b> Easy beech forest tramping on day 1, though it's quite a long way in to the hut at the head of the Lake. The route out on day 2 is via the poled route up and over the tops to Rough Creek, which has a reasonably good track down to the Lewis Pass Rd near the Maruia Hotel.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate          Closed: 31 May          Map: BT22 BT23          Approx: \$40</p>	

Sunday 10 June		Leader: Jim Western 377 5431	
<p><b>Korowai-Torlesse Tussocklands:</b> Actually the whole park would be a bit ambitious - it's 21,000 hectares altogether. We'll head in at the base of Porters Pass, probably ambling towards Trig M. It's an easy social trip which will be tailored to the group on the day. The main aim is to get out and enjoy the winter landscape in our first tussock grasslands conservation area. Tussock is indeed the major feature of the landscape for our trip - but it's not all the same you know: the slim-leaved snow tussock is common but the area also the eastern limit of mid-ribbed snow tussock - see if you can spot the difference! There could be snow so gaiters and a walking pole will be useful; dress warmly, and have a great time.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 7 Jun Map: BW21 Approx: \$20</p>	
Thursday 14 June		Club Night	
<p><b>Past slides of mid winter hut bashes:</b> Past slides of mid winter hut bashes and recipients of the annual "Loo Loo" of the year awards, from years gone by, and any other whimsical trips. Please contact Jim Western before hand (Ph 377 5431 or jimwestern@xtra.co.nz) if you have any photo/slides etc, so that we can assemble them into onto a disc/memory stick, or just bring them into club on the night. I will also bring in the slide projector, for those that don't have digital dexterity.</p>			
Saturday 16 June		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210	
<p><b>Cass Ridge:</b> Walk through a fascinating limestone area in coastal North Canterbury. As well as the limestone there are some good stands of native bush, and we'll pop over Mt Cass (525m), Totara (527m) and Oldham (496m) on our way along a low spine of hills. Mount Cass is the site of a proposed windfarm, which was given resource consent by the Environment Court in December 2011. Come along and see the area and its unusual limestone environment for yourselves before the wind turbines appear. Some off-track tramping in gentle country, 10 - 12k at a relaxed pace, in a very interesting area - a tramp to please almost everyone.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy+ Closes: 14 Jun Map: BV24 Approx: \$20</p>	
Weekend 16-17 June Departure point: 'Z' Papanui		Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz	
<p><b>Cameron Hut:</b> Located behind Mt Somers, the Arrowsmith Range is far larger and steeper than the surrounding foothills. 5 or 6 hours tramping, with only a little climbing towards the end, will get us to the Cameron hut, situated on the remnant terminal moraine of the Cameron Glacier. Spectacular views from the hut on to the Arrowsmith mountains.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 7 Jun Map: BW18 BX19 Approx: \$35</p>	

Sunday 17 June	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
<p><b>Savannah Range:</b> Woolshed Hill (1429m) is a straightforward 800m ascent on a good track from the Hawdon Shelter, but on this trip we aim to go quite a bit further and have a real explore of a less-visited area . . . The plan is to head along the ridge towards the Savannah Range, dropping down to the Hawdon for the return march. Nothing too hard but a longish way and a longish day.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)</p> <p>Closes: 14 Jun</p> <p>Map: BV21</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>

Thursday 21 June	Club Night
<p><b>Berlin; our own Chris Curry takes us on a tour of this great German city.:</b> Chris tells me he spent a good deal of time making his way around the city by foot, so managed to get a good overall insight into the lives of the Berliners.(Next time he will buy a street map written in English). If past presentations by Chris are to go by, this will be a great informative and entertaining evening.</p>	

Saturday 23 June	Social Event
<p><b>Annual CTC Mid Winter Breakfast.:</b> Annual Mid Winter Breakfast, 8 am. at The Chateau on the Park, (corner of Deans Avenue and Kilmarnock Street) Please put your name down on this list at the club rooms or contact Jim Western before hand (377 5431 or jimwestern@xtra.co.nz), so that the hotel will have a good idea of numbers on the day. Everyone to pay the hotel on the day of the breakfast as follows; Continental - \$17.50 per person (discounted from \$19.00) Fully cooked buffet - \$22.50 per person (discounted from \$24.00) Children under 12 years are \$1.00 per year This is your last chance to nominate the annual club "Loo-Loo" of the year award, for the most deserving recipient, in such categories including; the most geographically challenged, logistically lacking, or outrageously disoriented. Please note that accurate details are all well and good, but never let the truth get in the way of a good story! All welcome.</p>	

Saturday 23 June Early start: 6:30am	Leader: Warwick Dowling - phone 021 35 4545 981-2045 warwick.dowling@clear.net.nz
<p><b>Mons Sex Millia (subject to prior permission by the landowner):</b> 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 from the west, keeping out of the bush as much as possible, going past Garnet Peak. Longish day tramping: ~9 hours, and around 1300m height gain, with a little bush bashing on the descent near the track - perhaps in the dark. Bring ice-axe &amp; crampons. Torch and Whistle a must. Should be great! Note: helmets are not required, and are available free hire from the gear custodian. Early start, 6:30am Shell, 1 Papanui Road. There is NO water on this trip, so please bring plenty of water.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)</p> <p>Closes: 21 Jun</p> <p>Map: BU23</p> <p>Approx: \$30</p>

Weekend 23-24 June Departure point: 'Z' Papanui	Leader: Cristina Zablan 03 374 6354 cristimo28@gmail.com
<b>Croesus Top Hut:</b> A great family trip in the Paparoa Range. We will leave on Friday evening (7pm) and stay at the club hut in Arthur's Pass. On Saturday it is just a short drive to the start of the track, leaving plenty of time to explore historic mines or to climb Croesus Knob for a great view towards the coast. On Sunday we will return the same way.	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 14 Jun Map: BT19 BT20 Approx: \$50

Weekend 23-24 June	Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196
<b>Mt Greenlaw:</b> Reputed to be the loosest pile of choss amongst numerous contenders in the Arthurs Pass area. The leader's cunning plan is to attack while it is frozen into a solid (ish) lump. Lack of daylight hours will also assist us to sneak up on it before it can fall on us. 4wd approach via Avoca Valley is the intention. Note: The leader is currently out of action with a damaged foot, this trip may be substituted with a south face assault on the Arthurs Pass Tea Rooms pie warmer.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 14 Jun Map: BV20 Approx: \$40

Sunday 24 June	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
<b>Tiromoana Bush:</b> Otherwise known as the Kate Valley Walkway, the Tiromoana Bush Track is a new-ish walkway constructed as a result of the landfill deal. The club did a 'test run' before it officially opened and it's been a popular tramp ever since. It's certainly a great way to explore the area to the east of the landfill where native bush and the Ella Ponds wetlands are being protected and restored. The track loops around from the Glenafric road to a cliff lookout (Tiromoana means 'view of the sea') and access to the Ella Peak Scenic Reserve and the beach and then back past the wetlands.	Grade: Easy Closes: 21 Jun Map: BV23 Approx: \$15

Thursday 28 June	Club Night
<b>Newsletter folding night:</b> Be the first to experience the latest club news hot off the press, and help the club get ready their next batch of the ongoing saga of the adventures, trails and tribulations of the Christchurch Tramping Club. Bring in some photos/slide of recent trips, or just catch up and plan for future exploits out in the hills. A good social time to catch up, whilst assisting the club with their monthly mail out.	

Saturday 30 June		Leader: Max De Lacey 03-688-8342	
<p><b>Big Mount Peel via Coal Hill:</b> This trip will start from Boundary Stream, and will approach Big Mt Peel from the East, rather than the traditional Little Mt Peel. Be prepared for a long day, as there will be about 1400m height gain from the cars and approx 18km. As you'd expect, the tussock tops offer panoramic views out over this lovely area. Note: there could be an early start - make sure you contact the leader - and be prepared for a long but rewarding day. Ice Axe and Crampons required.</p>		Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills)	Closes: 28 Jun
		Map:	Approx:

Weekend 30 June-1 July		Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686	
Departure point: 'Z' Papanui		atromans@gmail.com	
<p><b>Mottram Peaks:</b> Get some nice views of snow capped mountains. Go up to Arthurs Pass on Friday night. Climb the peak on Saturday and stay at Anti-Crow Hut. Out early the next day. Ice axe and crampons required.</p>		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 21 Jun
		Map: BV20	Approx: \$40

Sunday 1 July		Leader: Kerrie Maynard 386-2850	
<p><b>Camp Saddle:</b> Camp Saddle is a nice accessible part of the Craigieburns, just off the main range of Hamilton, Cockayne, Cheeseman etc. We can go up from the ski field access road, or perhaps round via the Craigieburn Valley. It's a short but steepish climb onto the saddle (1480m) for a rest to admire the views out over the Craigieburns and down towards the Broken River Ski area. From the saddle we do a lovely promenade east along the top of a spur to point 1525 and then drop off to meet the Craigieburn Valley track again at Lyndon Saddle and hence back to the cars again. 700m-800m height gain and about 13-14km round trip depending on the exact route.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod (Requires Snow Skills)	Closes: 28 Jun
		Map: BW21	Approx: \$25

Thursday 5 July		Club Night	
<p><b>Outdoors adventures;</b> Richard Kimberly shows us his past outdoor exploits, including cross country skiing, the Copeland Pass, mountaineering and rock climbing. Richard has gained a lot of experience in the great outdoors over the years, so be sure not to miss this Thursday night's presentation.</p>			

Saturday 7 July		Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309	
<p><b>Torlesse Full Moon Trip:</b> There aren't many full moons that fall on the weekend over winter, so I'm hoping to do an overnight climb to the top of Torlesse with the full moon reflecting off the snow (well, that's the theory anyway...) However, the trip is very weather and snow dependent, but it is Saturday night at this stage. We will leave Christchurch at 4pm on Saturday, head up the Kowhai River to the top, then crash back at the Kowai Hut for a late morning sleep in and get back to town later that day. We would return to Christchurch around lunchtime on Sunday. Ice axe, crampons, and a good torch are necessary. It will also be good to bring your sunglasses!!!</p>		Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)	Closes: 5 Jul Map: BW21 Approx: \$20
Weekend 7-8 July Departure point: 'Z' Papanui		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931 bernhard.parawa@cdhb.govt.nz	
<p><b>Boyle Flat Hut:</b> Graded EasyMod for those who want to walk in on Saturday and walk out on Sunday the same route. The moderate trampers can return over the top via "Faust" which may require ice axe &amp; crampons. Additional option is to pop up to Sylvia Flats to check out the Hot Pools before we head home.</p>		Grade: Moderate with easier options	Closes: 28 Jun Map: BU23 BT23 Approx: \$35
Sunday 8 July		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366	
<p><b>Travers - Trovatore:</b> 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.</p>		Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)	Closes: 5 Jul Map: BT23 Approx: \$35
Saturday 14 July		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Black Hole:</b> Black Hole? No, not a region of space with a gravitational field so powerful that nothing, including light, can escape its pull - this has only been run once by the club before (to an area with a gravitational field so powerful that . . .). The Black Hole is an interesting little gorged area up near Lake Coleridge, with up to about 10 k of tramping, partly on an old 4wd road and partly untracked. We are now officially in winter - make sure you have really good warm layers, warm gloves, hat etc etc.</p>		Grade: Easy	Closes: 12 Jul Map: BW20 Approx: \$25

<p>Weekend 14-15 July Departure point: 'Z' Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Jim Western 377 5431 jimwestern@xtra.co.nz</p>
<p><b>Hanmer Base Camp:</b> The Hot Pools are a given. But where to walk? How about Princess Bath and Mt Princess or Mt Clara or Mt Southey, all in the Lake Tennyson direction. Or head up the road towards Lewis Pass for any number of bush / mountain walks. Don't want to walk? How about a day's skiing at Amuri. Or mountainbike the growing network of trails in the forest. Something for all.</p>	<p>Grade: All Closes: 5 Jul Map: BU24 BT24 Approx: \$40 + Accom</p>
<p>Sunday 15 July</p>	<p>Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360</p>
<p><b>Rakaia Gorge:</b> Rakaia Gorge Walkway is a nice easy trip, mainly following the cliffs above the gorge, and gives great views of the gorge and surrounding landscape. "The scenic attractions of the walkway are outstanding. A number of viewpoints along the clifftop afford dramatic perspectives of the mighty blue Rakaia River as it swirls past the steep bluffs, broad shingle banks and patterned farm terraces . . ." (Pat Barrett). The walkway itself (5k each way) starts in farmland but then enters areas of regenerating native bush, passes the disused Snowdon Coalmine, and ends in a good viewpoint. There is also the option - perhaps for the return trip - of a short loop which takes you down to the Rakaia itself.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 12 Jul Map: BX20 BX21 Approx: \$25</p>
<p>Long Weekend 20-22 July Departure point: Contact Leader</p>	<p>Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz</p>
<p><b>Welcome Flat Hot Pool:</b> Enjoy a long weekend at/in the best hot pools the South Island has on offer. We will leave on Thursday afternoon and drive all the way to a DOC camp ground at Lake Mapourika just north of Franz Josef. After having a good breakfast in Franz Josef the next morning we will follow a great track to the pools. Since this is not a long weekend we will most likely be alone there for the first night. On Saturday there are options to venture up the valley or to relax in the pools. On Sunday we will walk back to the cars and return to Christchurch, hopefully before midnight. Trip cost of \$110 includes transport (\$70-\$80), hut tickets (2x\$15) and camp ground fees. A hut pass is not valid at this hut.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod+ Closes: 12 Jul Map: BX14 BX15 Approx: \$110</p>

Saturday 21 July		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Kaka Hill:</b> Kaka Hill (994m) is pretty little topographical protuberance right by the edge of Lake Coleridge. There are plenty of more strenuous trips out this way but this is a great opportunity to experience this very spectacular tramping area in more relaxed mode (although, with about 500m height gain, this may be at the more-muesli-bars-before-lunch end of our normal 'easy trip' range). It really is a stunning area and the longer drive is worth it just to see Lake Coleridge if you've never been there before, let alone the social delights of a CTC trip...</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 19 Jul Map: BW20 Approx: \$25	
Sunday 22 July		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931	
<p><b>Mt Barossa:</b> In the Clent hills, Mt Barrosa is a wee bit further west than Mt Somers and a wee bit lower too (1364m). It is an interesting geological area (Barrosa Andesite) and rumour has it that keen rock hounds can find geodes (whatever they are). Historians and linguists will appreciate that this is not the 'red earth barossa', redolent of red wine, but the 1911 Peninsula Wars version - NZ was, after all, originally a colony . . . Remember that at least basic-level snow skills are probably necessary for any moderate trip at this time of year.</p>		Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills) Closes: 19 Jul Map: BX20 Approx: \$25	
Saturday 28 July		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006	
<p><b>Mt Grey:</b> 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.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 26 Jul Map: BW23 Approx: \$20	

Weekend 28-29 July Departure point: 'Z' Papanui		Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196
<p><b>Basic Snowcraft Course:</b> An introduction to the basic snow skills needed by any club member wishing to head into the high country over winter. The course covers the use of iceaxe and crampons, basic avalanche awareness, winter survival techniques and snow shelters. Ice axe, crampons and helmet required; these can be hired from the gear custodian ..... get in quick with your bookings or you will have to hire gear from the mountaineering shops in town. Contact leader for additional gear requirements. Gear check (appropriate boots, etc) will be at club night on Thurs 26th. Or as agreed with leader if you can't make it in on Thursday. Leaving town Saturday morning for the Craigieburn area. Saturday night will be at the Club hut at Arthurs Pass. Sunday back to the Cragiburns then home. This course is available only to full club members.</p>	Grade: Training Closes: 19 Jul Map: BV20 Approx: \$60	

Sunday 29 July		Leader: Clive Marsh 325-6253
<p><b>Mt Lancelot:</b> Mt Lancelot is 2112m high, and is on the Jellicoe Ridge between Mt Rolleston &amp; Guinevere. We will tackle this starting at the Klondyke corner, head up the Crow, and on to the ridge from here. Early start as this will be a long day. Ice Axe, Crampons and Helmet is required.</p>	Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills) Closes: 26 Jul Map: BV20 Approx: \$30	

Saturday, 4 August		Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<p><b>Trip Leaders Course:</b> All you needed to know about running trips but were afraid to ask. A course for leaders and aspiring leaders to learn the skills of running trips. Trip planning, weather monitoring, choosing suitable trip members and equipment. Assessing situations, setting priorities, making decisions and taking effective action. Evaluating and minimizing risks. Using different styles of leadership for different situations. Handling challenges, conflicts and accidents. Managing people in groups with a range of abilities. Doing all that and still enjoying the trip!. A combination of classroom and outdoor training - come along and be challenged. Start at 9am at the Horticulture Centre where we normally meet on Thursdays.</p>	Grade: Training Closes: 2 Aug Map: Approx: \$0	

Weekend 11-12 August Departure point: 'Z' Papanui	Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196 steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz
<b>Snow Caving:</b> Having done the snow-craft course with Adrian, it would be good to actually spend the night in a snowcave. Not sure where exactly, it will be somewhere not too far from Christchurch, probably in the Craigieburns. However, this trip is obviously dependent upon snow conditions and weather. We will allow several hours to make a decent cave, depending on numbers, and then sleep the night in it. That's the plan, so if anyone is up for cold-star accommodation for Saturday night (where else would you be?), and have done a basic snow-craft course that involved building a rudimentary snowcave, then join up! Ski tourers welcome - we might find time to sneak in a few runs.	Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills) Closes: 2 Aug Map: tbd Approx: \$40
Weekend 25-26 August Departure point: 'Z' Papanui	Leader: Gareth Gilbert 981-1737 gilbert.gareth@gmail.com
<b>Ada Pass Hut:</b> A great trip on a good track to a cozy hut, ideal for those looking to get into weekend tramping. The Ada Pass Hut is the second hut on the northern end of the Saint James Walkway, about 12km from the Lewis Pass car park. Those keen can return via the Zampa Tops on Sunday.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 16 Aug Map: BT23 Approx: \$40

## Trip Reports

6-7 April 2012

### Mt Adams

Mt Adams is a 2200 mtr peak that is visible to travellers along State Highway 6 from Lake lanthe to Lake Wahapo.

Good Friday 8am, the mist slowly lifts on the Harihari flats and four of us begin a boulder hop up the Little Man River. Our packs increase in size as we load an extra 4 litres at our last water spot before the alpine tops. The forest track leads up a steep rata clad spur and by 2pm after much hauling on tree roots we are all sprawled out in the tussock at our bivy at point 1545.

Little further movement occurs from this point on until Mike suggests we go for the summit now instead of tomorrow. Mike's only previous CTC Trip was graded Easy and had an 11 hour day in it. Not wanting to disappoint him with a ModHard that takes less than 11 hours we rallied and prepared for more climbing. Its 3pm now and theres a kea buzzing around so after thoroughly kea proofing our bivy gear with rocks we set off.

Tussock turns to what appears to be schist on the ridge. It feels secure to walk on as it clinks like glass beneath our feet. The first of three false summits appear and we traverse until we spy a descent onto a snow field. With crampons and axes we head down and cross an icy plateau to a final rock scramble and then yeehah the true summit of Mt Adams.

The view is pretty average to say the least ha ha. The sun is setting on the Main Divide.

Jagged in the Arrowsmiths to the north, D'Archiac just across the valley, Cook, Tasman and Elie de Beaumont to the south. Wow.

Its 5.30pm so it's time for a hasty retreat. Sundown is 6.25, we watch it as it drops into the Tasman sea and at a temperature of 5500 celcius sends clouds of steam streaking skywards as the ocean boils and turns blood red. Well okay it was a sight to behold.

We follow John as he glissades down one of last winter's surviving snow patches. A shaggy black thar watches us then bounds off down the mountainside. Light turns to dark but it is still a warm windless night. Peter points out Jupiter also about to set over the ocean. Shouldn't be problem (maybe lots of ice cubes this time) given the size of this tiddler (compared to the sun). Just as we reach for our headtorches the full moon appears from behind us and lights up our ridge.

Soon we spy our bivy site, then it's dinner and a night of stargazing over the narrow strip of West Coast from Okarito lagoon to the south up to the Waitaha river to the north.

Saturday brought more fine weather, a lot of descending and then a café stop in Hokitika.

An awesome trip you guys.

The Adams family were Mike Rait, John Chambers, Peter Smale and Richard Kimberley.

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22 April 2012

## **Mt Sinclair**

A 6.30 start and a long drive may have had a few of the party wondering whether Mt Sinclair was going to be worth it, but still an impressive number of optimists assembled and as the light broke and the sun rose on a cloudless morning, the optimism was vindicated.

Mesopotamia Station having kindly allowed us to use a farm track across several paddocks we were able start not far from our ascent ridge and made good time climbing up the tussock. By the time we neared the level where Richard had promised that the most beautiful alpine lake ever would be found, the group was somewhat spread out. The front runners (Steve, Max, Dayle, Sam, Richard K, Karl) arrived well in advance of the rest and spotting the lake (as wonderful as promised, particularly on such a hot day after a steep climb) ran down to it like the Gadarene swine (but with no subsequent casualties). Steve and Max were drying out nicely by the time most of the rest of the group had assembled. It was indeed a beautiful spot and we spent some time lazing

Around and having first lunch before reluctantly leaving to press on to the top.

Steve lead a group of scrambling enthusiasts along an enticing ridge up to pt 2061 while the rest of us took various more direct routes to the summit. Second lunch was duly spent on the top of Mt Sinclair, a superb viewpoint overlooking the Havelock, Lawrence and Clyde river confluence that forms the Rangitata and admiring views of Mt Cook, the Two Thumb Range including d'Archiac, Arrowsmiths ...

The route down was a straightforward ridge without much nice scree and then some scrubby lower slopes where we finally met up with Steve and Max again - they had found a much faster route down a scree gully. A quick march back took us back to the cars

Before 4.30, and then suddenly the whisper spread that perhaps we could make it back to the Mt Peel store before closing time. Ever one to take on a challenge, especially if it involves 4wd driving, Steve jammed in his passengers and charged off.

We made good time but it still past 5 when we arrived at the store, but look! it's still open. We piled triumphantly in and prepared to hold the fort - and were only slightly deflated to

be told that they were open until 6 anyway. The store did a roaring trade in ice creams, teas, coffees and biscuits that evening ...

("My name is Legion: for we are many" ...) Richard Lobb, Xiaoqiu Jiang, Max De Lacey, Gareth Caves, Li Li, Cristina Zablan, Steve Bruerton, Warwick Dowling, Silvia Horniakova, Kate Taylor, Andrea Zahn, Karl Holdorf, Dayle Drummond, Sam Newhouse, Klemens Stampfli, Denise Stroud, Jonathan Carr, Richard Kimberley, Murray Gifford, Jenny Harlow

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4 May 2012

## Work done at AP hut

David installed the new combination lock, so no more keys. Get the combination from Bernard or Steve, or if you are at the hut phone Rex on your mobile.

Some photos of the guys who lobbed the trees behind the hut down and a you tube link (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=am7JbmqPn9s&feature=youtu.be>).

I hope it works. Rex

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5 May 2012

## Goat Hill

Goat Hill is a wonderful tramp just on the West Coast side of Otira. Which means wonderful West Coast Bush, of which more anon... The marked track gives good access up through the bush from the main highway and we left Doug and David doing a car shuffle. Sue, Silvia and Adrian made an early break and it was not until the bushline that the rest of us, a mixed bag of trolls and goats according to Gareth, caught up. From there a faint path leads on through the scrub onto the main south ridge, over points 1392 and 1578. There were patches of new snow and although it was a warm sunny day there were still some slipperier places where the rocks were in shadow and covered with a film of thawing ice (which we kindly let Clive forge ahead to find first).

Lunch break was enlivened by a high-tec wireless exchange of gps routes: Sue was highly doubtful about the propriety of Doug enthusiastically engaging in such activity in public. We carried on along the increasingly scrambly ridge. A few hundred metres before the summit there is a particularly interesting little step which we dealt with by a cautious descent to the left of the steep side of ridge and then a short climb back up. Nicholas, on only his second trip with the club, had had no trouble keeping up until then but did take a few minutes to think about that little manoeuvre. Silvia also eyed it up somewhat doubtfully but tackled it with her usual voluble enthusiasm and skipped through like a true mountain goat.

Once we were all safely perched on the summit we admired the panoramic views: Taratama, Rolleston, Mt Alexander ... Clive and Richard discussed the possibilities of a north-east ridge approach to Mt Franklin but reluctantly concluded that little hints from the map - like apparently meeting the 1820 contour somewhat before the 1800 one on the ascent - indicated a somewhat offputting degree of steepness, even for them.

David had determined that a descent via the north ridge would be a good thing to tackle, a little matter of an ice axe he lost up there two years ago and was hoping to find being part of the equation, so we trotted off happily off... Not long later we were plunging around wildly in the toils of the rampant West Coast Scrub. No doubt proper goats would have eaten their way out. We took the more expeditious approach of forming up behind Doug and letting him and his trusty gps do all the hard work. After a considerable amount of crawling, sliding and dangling, slithering and contorting, scratches and contusions, and two

wasp stings to the unfortunate Linda, we finally emerged onto the flats beside the Deception just as it was getting dark.

The huge harvest moon came out from behind the hills just as we crossed the river back to the cars - a magical end to a superb tramp.

Goats: David Sutton (billy goat gruff), Nicholas Rowley, Gareth Caves, Doug Forster, Sue Hely, Silvia Horniakova, Richard Kimberley, Linda Lilburne, Adrian Sullivan, Clive Marsh, Jenny Harlow

Photo credits: Nicholas and Silvia

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12-13 May 2012

## **Black Serpent**

A pretty straight forward trip this one. The original plan was to attack Mt Sebastapol from along the Cardigan ridge. However, short daylight hours, long distances and a tough ridgeline conspired to keep us from this objective. Instead, we settled for knocking off this intriguingly named bump instead.

We left the 4x4 at the Fowlers pass hut and aimed straight across the open tussock for the saddle in the ridge. As we approached, Bernard noticed the newly refurbished (and, as yet un-named) ex-musterers hut in the valley a short distance away. Our leader made a strategic decision to dump our heavy weekend packs at the hut and climb Sebastapol with daypacks before returning to the hut in the evening. It was a devious and cunning plan which we gladly agreed to. The weather forecast was for worsening weather and we had no real desire to camp in what could potentially be a torrential downpour or a snowstorm.

Dark clouds were building on the divide and a stiff, cool breeze was blowing as we trudged up the spur to the main ridgeline. We encountered our first snow of the season on the way up but it was soft and shallow. Following the ridge along to Black Serpent presented no problems. From a distance this little knob looks quite ominous and threatening (which is possibly the origin of its name) but from up close it is quite tame.

We continue further along the ridge to a high point at about 1900m. From here we get nice views of Mt Una and the other peaks further north in Nelson lakes as well as views across to the Kaikoura ranges. We also get fine views of the rain building up against the main divide. Its still a long way to go along the ridge to Mt Sebastapol and its getting late. Also, one of the 1900m bumps up ahead looks like it may present some difficulties so we decide to head back to the hut. The suggested route up to Sebastapol from Nightingale creek is clearly the preferred option when tackling this peak although there are no huts.

We drop of the west down some soft, snow covered scree and then sidle out high on the true left of the river. There are a couple of deep gullies that have been scoured out but we negotiate these relatively easily and we manage to avoid the gorged river at the head of the valley. The hut makes a welcome refuge from the high wind that night. It's kind of like a double biv. It has four bunks and is high enough to stand in, although Bernhard and I nut our heads on the door frame a number of times. The hut comes equipped with an indoor gas stove, candles and a collection of "Gentleman's" magazines which are nicely complimented by an interesting women's lingerie decoration hanging from the ceiling.

Jovan's knee is playing up the next day and the weather is still windy with occasional rain being blown over the divide. We decide to head out while to going is good and we take a look at the Acheron accommodation house before heading back to Christchurch.

Trampers – Bernhard Parawa (Ldr), Jovan Andric, Lovisa Eriksson, Andrew Tromans

# More about the CTC

## Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<i>New Member's Rep:</i>	David Cockeram	337-0948
<i>Senior Vice President:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Antony White	381-5993
<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	3227793
<i>New Member's Rep:</i>	Liz Van Ekeris	337-0948	<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](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz)) by 24 June 2012 – Thanks.