



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.

Vol. 84

November 2014

No. 7



Radu on Mt Armstrong

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.

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.

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.

Social: We meet on Wednesdays 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 phone Kate Taylor 980-8224 or email kate-taylor@clear.net.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.

Wednesday 29 October		Club Night
<p>Newsletter folding night: It's that time of month again. Be first to see what trips are in the pipeline. Catch up with your fellow trampers to plot and scheme your next tramps and climbs while helping to ready next month's newsletter for distribution.</p>		
Saturday 1 November		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022188 5905
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		365 8210
<p>Banks Peninsula - High Bare Peak: Usually graded moderate because of the height gain this tramp starts highup and decends easily to the Little River Coffee Shop. More to come</p>		<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 30 Oct Map: BX24 BY24 Approx: \$20</p>
Saturday 1 November		Leader: Bruce James 332-3473
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		bruce.s.james@gmail.com
<p>Gargarus: Garagrus (1655 m) is a big flat-topped mound across the Harper River from the north end of Lake Coleridge. We'll first climb ~400 m up from Glenthorne Station to Gargarus Saddle, then turn south and climb another 650 m to the broad summit plateau. There are great views to Lake Coleridge, up the Wilberforce and Harper Rivers, and to Mts Olympus and Oakden, as well as The Spurs. There are also several return options, including a trip past Lake Lilian.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 30 Oct Map: BW20 Approx: \$25</p>
Weekend 1-2 November		Leader: Radu Popovici
Departure point: Contact Leader		
<p>Mt. Alarm or Rabbiters Peak or The Warrior: A trip somewhere to climb something. The trip date will move if the weather dictates. If you need to know more contact Radu.</p>		<p>Grade: Hard/Climbing Closed: 23 Oct Map: Approx: \$TBA</p>

Weekend 1-2 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 337 3125 bernhard.parawa@cdhb.govt.nz
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'll leave on Saturday at 8am from the Z station, camp up by the tarn, and scale a peak or two as and when time permits.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 23 Oct Map: BT24 Approx: \$40
Weekend 1-2 November	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
Woolshed Hill - Tent Virgin's trip: A chance to try out tenting for the first time or just a relaxing weekend away in the hills. Depending on the levels of fitness we will have a climb to the top of a hill or two, maybe even watch a sunset and/or sunrise on top of a ridge. The hills available to climb range from 600 to 1,000 metres of vertical climb and there is an endless amount of good tramping kms available.	Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 23 Oct Map: BV21 Approx: \$35
Sunday 2 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Ruth Gray 3745547 ruthterina@yahoo.co.nz
Big Mt Peel: Peel Forest is a remnant of a magnificent podocarp forest that once covered a huge area in mid-Canterbury and, with its mild moist climate, has the highest diversity of ferns in New Zealand. This tramp will take us right into this wonderful area, ascending through the vegetation layers out onto the tussock slopes of Mt Peel. First Little Mt Peel (1310 m, 900 m+ height gain), then a bit over 4 km to Middle Mt Peel (1583 m) and a further 2-3 km to Big Mt Peel itself (1743 m, about 1400 m height gain from the cars). 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.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 30 Oct Map: BY19 Approx: \$30
Wednesday 5 November	Club Night
Cycling the Great Divide Mountain Bike Trail in North America: In 2013 Ruth Gray, Kieran McGuigan and Denise Stroud cycled 5000 km over 9 weeks from Canada to Mexico along the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route. This route follows the Continental Divide down through the Rockies, and Wyoming Basin to the deserts of New Mexico. Come and see some of the landscapes and wildlife of backcountry America.	

Saturday 8 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125
<p>TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners": A chance to learn and practise some basic bush craft skills and survival tips, in case you ever get "misplaced" on a tramping trip. Due to budget constraints this will not be a Bear Grylls episode involving helicopters or dead possum stew. Instead it will be a chance to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire etc. This will be perfect use of a Saturday for all those trampers who fail (or want to build on) Adrian's navigation course. Bring your normal day backpack, a big lunch and a sense of humour, because everything else required for the course will be provided. Each trip is restricted to a max of four people. Any trip survivors may be involved in a post-trip debrief at the Oxford pub on the Sunday night. This will run every Saturday in November if there is enough demand.</p>	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 6 Nov Map: BW22 Approx: \$15	
Weekend 8-9 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Leader Required
<p>Sawcut Gorge/Kaikoura Base camp: The Sawcut Gorge is a stunning geological feature, to be visited as part of a Kaikoura Base Camp. Leader required: please contact Steve Bruerton (322-6196) or Richard Lobb (351 2344) if you'd be prepared to lead this trip.</p>	Grade: Easy Closes: 30 Oct Map: BS28 Approx: \$60	
Sunday 9 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366 bryce.williamson68@gmail.com
<p>Baldy Hill via Mt Manson: This is the third attempt at this trip -- thwarted first by weather and the second time by the station manager going on holiday. There are at least seven Baldy Hills in New Zealand. One of those seven is the northernmost summit of the Craigieburn Range. CTC trampers may not be aware of its name, but have quite possibly drooled over the glorious scree slopes on its northern face, readily seen when driving south along SH73 near Cass. The intention of this trip is to find out just how good those slopes are. We will climb the ridge south of Ribbonwood Steam, over Pt 1305 m to Mt Manson (1859 m), then circle around to Baldy Hill (1834 m) and down a suitable pile of shingle. All told, about 1500 m height gain and ca 14 km horizontal travel.</p>	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 6 Nov Map: BV21 Approx: \$20	

Sunday 9 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 022188 5905 365 8210
Coastal Exploring - Hurinui River to Gore Bay:: North Canterbury sea conditions are favourable for the Port Robinson Walkway, a coastal walk from Manuka Bay (or perhaps Hurinui River Mouth) round Point Gibson, through port Robinson to Gore Bay. We may be able to continue on over the hills to Cheviot. This extension still being worked on. Rehydration at a café after. Raincheck 22 November. Coopers Know will run instead	Grade: Easy Closes: 6 Nov Map: BV26 Approx: \$20

Wednesday 12 November	Club Night
The Crimean Peninsula by Natasha Sydorenko: You may have read about Crimea in international news, but did you know that this little diamond in the north of the Black Sea also features many landscapes and is a paradise for those who like to hike 'off the beaten track'? Here you can find steppes and sandy beaches in the North, undulating hills of vineyards and fruit trees in the East, castles reminiscent of Bavaria clinging to cliffs plunging into the warm sea in the South, and forested mountain ranges with fabled cave cities in the West. And all of this in an area 1/5 the size of South Island. Come have a look at some photos from my last two trips to Crimea, and let me show you that there's more to be found in this part of the world than just political unrest.	

Long Weekend 14-16 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 365 8210
Hut Bagging # 4: Destination is a work in progress but the trip will be at an easy grade in to a hut that is somewhere a bit different to our usual haunts. Tramping at an easy pace 4 - 5 hrs per day. And with an extra long weekend day to explore the area. Potluck dinner Friday evening. Maybe the hut up by Gola Peak , OR Kinnebrooks Hut at the back of Woodstock up the Waimak Gorge, OR Seldom Inn Hut up the Hut Branch of the Seaward River.	Grade: Easy Closes: 6 Nov Map: Approx: \$TBA

Long Weekend 14-16 November Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Li Li 039264395 ahhlili01@hotmail.com
Lake Angelus: day 1. Through the Speargrass Track to Sabine Hut by Lake Rotoroa. 12km on good tracks. day 2. Up and up over Mt Cedrick with views and sunshine promised by the leader, then dropping to the beautiful Lake Angelus. 1100m of height gain but only about 6km day 3. Descend back to Lake Rotoiti via the Robert Ridge. 8km part track, part ridgetop.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 6 Nov Map: Approx: Approx \$60 + Hut fees

Long Weekend 14-16 November Departure point: Caltex Russley	Leader: Radu Popovici
Mt Brewster / Mt Armstrong: Show weekend is hopefully a good time for Mt. Brewster as Queenstown/Wanaka don't have long weekend and we can probably get the hut to ourselves. Drive part way Thurs night, breakfast somewhere with bakery donuts on Friday then work them off on the haul uphill to the hut. Climb Saturday and get back to the hut. Down the hill Sunday and head back home via donuts at Wanaka and lamb shanks at Omarama. Mt Armstrong (2174m) is closer to the hut and offers stunning views to Aspiring, Fiordland, the Landsborough Wilderness with its huge snow domes Hooker and Dechan, and endless peaks stretching north to Cook. (Whew, after that description I need another donut)	Grade: Moderate with Climbing Options Closes: 6 Nov Map: Approx:

Long Weekend 14-16 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Warwick Dowling 021 35 4545 981-2045
Mueller Hut & Annette Plateau: There are two options on this trip - Moderate to the fabulous Mueller Hut (the views are awesome alpine right up to Mt Cook), and Mod/Hard for the extension to the Annette Plateau. The Annette Plateau is a beautiful glacial ice field, so we can practice safe glacier travel by roping up and wearing all the gear - crampons, ice-axe, helmet, harness. We will leave promptly on Thursday night to reach Mt Cook Village that night. You must speak to the leader if you put your name on the list.	Grade: Moderate to ModHard Closes: 6 Nov Map: BY15 BX15 Approx: \$70 + Hut Fees

Saturday 15 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 021-168-5716 355-8360
Purple Peak/Ellangowan Reserve/Takamatua Valley: This trip will start in Akaroa from where we will follow the Purple Peak Track up to the saddle between Purple and Stony Bay Peaks. Then it is up to the Cabstand/Hickory Bay Road from where we will explore the Ellangowan Reserve. From there, it's a short walk along the Summit Road, then down the Old Le Bons Track to Takamatua Valley. 600 m height gain and a car shuffle will be required.	Grade: Easy Mod Closes: 13 Nov Map: BY25 Approx: \$20

Saturday 15 November		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125	
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui			
<p>TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners": A chance to learn and practise some basic bush craft skills and survival tips, in case you ever get "misplaced" on a tramping trip. Due to budget constraints this will not be a Bear Grylls episode involving helicopters or dead possum stew. Instead it will be a chance to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire etc. This will be perfect use of a Saturday for all those trampers who fail (or want to build on) Adrian's navigation course. Bring your normal day backpack, a big lunch and a sense of humour, because everything else required for the course will be provided. Each trip is restricted to a max of four people. Any trip survivors may be involved in a post-trip debrief at the Oxford pub on the Sunday night. This will run every Saturday in November if there is enough demand.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 13 Nov Map: BW23 Approx: \$15	
Sunday 16 November		Leader: Jenny Harlow 349-2280	
Departure point: Caltex Russley			
<p>Camp Saddle to Helicopter Hill: Camp Saddle (1480 m) lies on an easily accessed spur extending south-east from the spine of the Craigieburn Range and separating the Broken River and Craigieburn ski areas. The saddle is reached by a ~500 m climb from either of the ski field access roads. From the saddle we'll head along the spur to Pt 1525 m, then make a scree descent to Lyndon Saddle. Time permitting, we'll aim to make the short ~150 m to Helicopter Hill climb before heading back to the cars via the Craigieburn Valley Track or Lyndon Saddle Track. All up, about 700-800 m height gain over about 13-14 km, depending on the exact route. Note the departure point at the Caltex Russley service station.</p>		Grade: EasyMod Closes: 13 Nov Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	
Wednesday 19 November		Club Night	
<p>Uganda: Chris Curry will talk to us about his trip to Uganda. The presentation includes Kampala, Bwindi Impenetrable Forest for the gorillas. Next it is to Queen Elizabeth National Park and the Kazinga channel and then to Jinja at lake Victoria, source of the Nile.</p>			
Saturday 22 November		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022188 5905	
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		365 8210	
<p>Port Hills - Coopers Knob (573m): A highpoint of the Port Hills giving panoramic views of Lyttleton Harbour, Canterbury Plains south, North and West to the Alps. New route, mostly in a loop. Some on & off track with a distinct possibly a little(?) scrub bashing. Returning to the cars . Backup for Coastal Exploring on 9th Nov. Time: 4-5hrs (Kids ok. Contact Leader first TecBruce@Gmail.com)</p>		Grade: Easy+ Closes: 20 Nov Map: BX24 Approx: \$10	

Saturday 22 November Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125
 Departure point: Caltex Russley

<p>TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners": A chance to learn and practise some basic bush craft skills and survival tips, in case you ever get "misplaced" on a tramping trip. Due to budget constraints this will not be a Bear Grylls episode involving helicopters or dead possum stew. Instead it will be a chance to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire etc. This will be perfect use of a Saturday for all those trampers who fail (or want to build on) Adrian's navigation course. Bring your normal day backpack, a big lunch and a sense of humour, because everything else required for the course will be provided. Each trip is restricted to a max of four people. Any trip survivors may be involved in a post-trip debrief at the Oxford pub on the Sunday night. This will run every Saturday in November if there is enough demand.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 20 Nov Map: BW22 Approx: \$15</p>
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Weekend 22-23 November Leader: Leader required Leader needed,
 contact Steve B if you are interested in
 leading this trip
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>Nina - Devilskin Saddle - Sylvia Tops: A classic tramp in the Lewis Pass area.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 13 Nov Map: M32 Approx: \$45</p>
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Sunday 23 November Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366
 bryce.williamson68@gmail.com
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

<p>Blue Hill and Coleridge Pass: This trip is possibly a first for the CTC. Blue Hill (1946 m) is at the very southern end of the Craigieburn Range, across Coleridge Pass from Red Hill. To shorten the walking, we will (hopefully) drive up the Porter Heights Skifield road to near the point where it crosses Porter River. Then we'll climb ~1000 m to the summit, overlooking the ski field. The intended return route is to follow the southern ridge down to Coleridge Pass (1134 m) and then trace the Porter River back to the cars. This trip is subject to being able to get access along the ski field road.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 20 Nov Map: BW21 Approx: \$20</p>
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Wednesday 26 November Club Night

Newsletter folding night: We may yet do something entertaining on this night - I just haven't figured out what yet. Some good ideas have been floating around - feel free to fill this space with one or more of them!

Saturday 29 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022188 5905 365 8210	
Lady Barker Range (780m): A circuit above the Selwyn River's upper reaches overlooking septembers Middlerock farm tramp. Great views of Mount Hut, and the Rakaia and Selwyn Valleys, Time: 4-5hrs (Kids ok. Contact Leader first TecBruce@Gmail.com)		Grade: Easy	Closes: 27 Nov
		Map:	Approx: \$20
Saturday 29 November Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125	
TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners": A chance to learn and practise some basic bush craft skills and survival tips, in case you ever get "misplaced" on a tramping trip. Due to budget constraints this will not be a Bear Grylls episode involving helicopters or dead possum stew. Instead it will be a chance to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire etc. This will be perfect use of a Saturday for all those trampers who fail (or want to build on) Adrian's navigation course. Bring your normal day backpack, a big lunch and a sense of humour, because everything else required for the course will be provided. Each trip is restricted to a max of four people. Any trip survivors may be involved in a post-trip debrief at the Oxford pub on the Sunday night. This will run every Saturday in November if there is enough demand.		Grade: EasyMod	Closes: 27 Nov
		Map: BW22	Approx: \$15
Weekend 29-30 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Craig Beere 381-0839 havokk@ihug.co.nz	
Interesting Food Competition at Hawdon Hut: Did you ever choose a hut by the size of its kitchen? Well, this trip is all about food and not too much about tramping. It is just 9 km each way with a total height gain of 150 m, with an option of an afternoon wander to Walker Pass. There will be a competition for Most Interesting Dinner with a small prize for the winner. What are the rules? Simple - no boring food!		Grade: Easy	Closes: 20 Nov
		Map: BV21	Approx: \$30 + Accom
Long Weekend 29 November-2 December Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309	
Harper Pass Crossover: Make like an old gold miner and walk to the West Coast. (Or back from the Coast if you end up in that car) Hot pools on both sides of the Pass will no doubt be worked in to the trip plan. Contact Thomas for more details.		Grade: Easy Mod	Closes: 20 Nov
		Map:	Approx:

Sunday 30 November Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Alastair Brown 338-1324
Mt Cheeseman-Mt Cloudsley Traverse: Starting from the Hogs Back car park on Mt Cheeseman Road, we'll climb ~1200 m up to Mt Cheeseman (2031 m), then head 4-5 km south along the main spine of the Craigieburn Range to Mt Cloudsley (2017 m). We'll descend via Long Spur, taking the north branch towards Long Creek and then pick up the Hogs Back track back to the cars. If the conditions are unfavourable, then the ridge projecting east from Mt Iazard should be a suitable bail-out option.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 27 Nov Map: BW20 Approx: \$20	
Saturday 6 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022188 5905 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Lake Coleridge - Family Day:: This is a day for the littlees to come tramping with a chance to see inside the power station where the Electrinary Monster hides. This tramp is especially for under 7s with there moms and dads. The walking pace & distance is for the kids, more like a family picnic day. Still in planning stage & hoping to be able to include something for the bigger kids or perhaps an Easy grade tramp for all. Height: 50m 3-4 hrs	Grade: Easy/All Closes: 4 Dec Map: BW20 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 6-7 December		Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531
Kaikoura Base Camp: Walk out to Haumuri bluff Saturday, staying at a house at South Bay (30 per person). Shared meal Saturday night - bring wine nibbles, whatever. Sunday at leisure. Possible coastal track jaunt, lunch then home. If people want to go up Mt Fyffe early that's another possibility.	Grade: All Closes: 27 Nov Map: Approx:	
Weekend 6-7 December Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Leader needed.
Tom Thumb Col: Tom Thumb Col crosses the Two Thumb Range, just south of the Thumbs. There are plenty of options in this area, one suggestion is a loop out of Bush Stream, over Brabazon Saddle and then Tom Thumb Col to camp in the high basins of Two Thumb Stream. Returning via Mt Caton, wander south along the ridge awhile then drop down to Crooked Spur.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 27 Nov Map: I36 Approx:	

Sunday 7 December 7.30 am Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<p>Gabriel Hut and Lake Sumner: The cute little Gabriel Hut is reached from a track starting at the Sisters Stream on the Lake Sumner Road. From the swing bridge crossing the Hurunui River, the track traverses a series of ancient river terraces, making it an easy walk to the hut with little height gain. From the hut, there is the option of a short walk to Lake Sumner. Return the same way. Note the early start time of 7:30 am.</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 4 Dec Map: BU23 Approx: \$25	
Saturday 13 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<p>Lake Rubicon and 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.</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 11 Dec Map: BW21 Approx: \$15	
Saturday 13 December Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui at 12 noon		Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001 adrian.busby1@gmail.com	
<p>River crossing course: Undertaking a river crossing course is the closest thing we have in the CTC to a compulsory training course, in NZ everyone heading to the hills, even easy day tramps needs to have good river crossing skills and more importantly the skill to decide not to cross! With a large number of our new members from overseas where river crossing skills are almost entirely absent this course is a 'must do' for these members. Again get your name down on the list as this course fills fast and places are limited. Note the none departure time.</p>		Grade: Training Closes: 11 Dec Map: Approx: None	
Weekend 13-14 December Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Doug Forster 337-5453 doug@forster.net.nz	
<p>Mt Pfeifer: A great little overnight trip. From the Deception footbridge over the Otira River you follow a rocky riverbed up through the scrub to the tussock tops. Sidle around the mountain into the large basin containing the bivi. An easy scramble takes you to the top of Mt Pfeifer, a fine spot to sit and watch the sunset.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 4 Dec Map: K33 Approx:	

Weekend 13-14 December Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531
Peel Forest Base Camp: easy/hard ///whatever...Peel forest has a plethora of walks...easy harder and hard....so people can choose their own level..usually go up Little Mt peel on the Saturday...Sunday Denniston walk,Fern walk or view giant trees and giant ..3 metres in height lillies at Archeron homestead...shared meal at camp ground...can tent or there are cabins please make your own bookings lizjtanner@gmail.com	Grade: Basecamp Closes: 4 Dec Map: Approx:	
Weekend 17-18 January Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196
Pito Peak: Leaving from the Caltex Russley at 8am Sat morning. Pito Peak (2401m) is the highest point in the Big Hill Range, close to Mt Arrowsmith. It easily overlooks the Potts Range and most mountains on the other side of the Lawrence River. The plan is to 4WD up the South Ashburton river on farm tracks to the hut in the upper valley. So places on the trip will be restricted to seats available. If the wx looks really nice we might wander some way up the mountain and bivy to make it an easier day on Sunday. Its 1300m from the valley floor to the top.	Grade: ModHard (requires snow skills) Closes: 8 Jan Map: BW18 J35 Approx: \$60	
Multi day trip 23-24 January Departure point: Horticultural Society Hall - 7 pm		Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001 adrian.busby1@gmail.com
Basic navigation: Adrian will run a two-part training course intended to give good basic all-round insight into navigation in the mountains. It covers GPS use and the more essential aspects of navigation, such as map reading and compass work. The first part will be conducted in the Horticultural Halls (normal club meeting place) at 7.00 pm SHARP on Friday night. Then we'll go out on the hills near Little River on Saturday, starting at 9.00 am. You must attend the Friday night session in order to be able to do the field work. You must also put your name on the Trip list since this course always fills rapidly.	Grade: Training Closes: 15 Jan Map: Approx: None	

Trip Reports

20-21 September 2014

Edwards Hut/Mt Bowers

Our original plan was, if the weather forecast was good, to head up to the club hut on Friday night and then head into Edwards hut early on Saturday with the ultimate goal being to ascend Mt Scott the same day and head back out on Sunday. It had been a mild build up earlier in the week but the mid week long range forecast was for snow all weekend in the park. The mountains had had little snow over the winter but had a fresh dump over Thursday and Friday and more was forecast over Saturday night.

That being said, it was a fine start to the day as eight of us left the cars near Gurneys Shelter and split into two groups, the ones who wanted to keep their feet dry by crossing at the rail bridge, and the rest who had spare shoes and crossed straight away. This scribe was in the first mentioned group but as soon as we got to the other side we had to cross a side stream flowing into the Bealey river and so the rest of them went through the exercise of removing their boots and crossing. I just got wet boots. So we lost about an hour doing all this and we caught the others about half way up the first stretch of The Edwards River. It was a fairly leisurely walk up to the hut taking us almost 6 hours and with a full weekend pack, this scribe, who hadn't been out for quite some time, was feeling it by the time I got to the hut. There was plenty of fresh snow around the hut and it started snowing some more as the afternoon wore on. We had the hut to ourselves and so got the fire going and settled down to dinner and snowman building.

Sunday dawned fine again with the additional snow fall being fairly light. It was decided

that if it was fine, we would make an early start and instead of Mt Scott, we would do Mt Bowers. We got away from the hut about 8:30am and headed back down the Edwards for several minutes before starting our ascent up a clear slope all the way to the ridge just below Mt Bowers. It took about 3 hours to climb this slope in deepening snow, with the more fitter members snow plugging the way for us softer folk. Crampons were donned a couple of hundred meters from the top and although it wasn't too frozen, they were needed in patches. Most of the group stopped at the ridge but Tomyu and myself



had to do the summit. The trip back down followed pretty much the same route with some partially successful attempts at bumsiding speeding things up. We popped back to the hut for lunch and to pick up the rest of our gear before heading back to the cars.

Participants: Warwick Dowling(Leader), Pip Hawkes, Bill Johnson, Jason Baker, Karen Tait, Shaun Wong, Tomyu Hu, Rodney Erickson (Scribe)

For more photos visit Rodney's Blog: <http://roddus.blogspot.co.nz/2014/09/edwards-hutmt-bowers-20-21st-september.html>

Lake Guyon

Plan A, Head over Lewis Pass to head up the klondyke Track on the Rahu Saddle and camp at the Tarns on Saturday. Lots of snow falls on Friday and Saturday morning and with the forecast for cold southerlies and possible heavy rain on Sunday, somewhere more sheltered looks inviting.

Plan B, head up to the Hope Bridge and head into Carlyle Hut, a cool looking hut and looks like a cool place to enjoy the snow. Can't get hold of Glenhope Station to get access permission but ...

Plan C could be to head into Saint Jacobs Hut or Top Hope Hut. Get to just pass the Hanmer turn off on State highway 7 and find the road closed to All Traffic and even though we don't want to go all the way through, they won't let any vehicles through until after 11am.

Plan D, head to Hanmer and see what's happening over the back blocks. Heading north along Tophouse Road we see the fresh snow on the distant mountains and the black clouds to the west and north and with Sundays forecast in mind, decide Paske Hut probably won't be an option and so settle for a far less energetic womble into Lake Guyon, (although the Cow Stream hot pools were considered.

With an inch of fresh snow on the ground at Fowlers hut, we wrapped up warm and set off around 10:30am on a partly cloudy and slightly windy morning to wind our way up the easy but snow covered track to Fowlers Pass. It was a wonderful winterland that greeted us as we plowed our way through the deepening snow and fought against the gusty winds that blew clouds of light snow into our faces. A photo stop at the saddle as things calmed down a bit before plunging down the zig zag into Smyths Stream and some deeper snow drifts to keep things interesting. The scenery is stunning and very white and the weather stays friendly allowing us to enjoy this winter wonderland as we tramp down the Stanley River to the old Stanley vale hut where we find a very friendly horse guarding the hut while it's master was away.

We made Lake Guyon around 3pm and were relieved to find the hut empty. Looking to Mt Moki to the North West we could see it was still snowing with the snow occasionally coming close enough to fall on the hut while we lounge about inside. Looking south didn't look too good either as we appeared to be in a little oasis of calmer weather. The afternoon and evening went quite quickly with good company and good conversation (although the rest of the group were probably bored to hell with Brian and myself bleating on about Hifi and music all night). We all hit the sack on dark and hoped that we were far enough east to miss the forecast rain on Sunday.

Sunday was clear enough with even more new snow visible on the northern mountains but considerably less around the hut and lake. The object of today was to head back out the same way we came in. It was a considerably faster trip with only one brief stop for nibbles and much less snow to slow us down. We got back to Fowler Hut in under 4 hours, had lunch and headed home.

Participants: Brian Dougan (Leader), Jason Baker, Dale Drummond, Harley James, Rodney Erickson (Scribe).

For more photos, check out Rodney's Blog: <http://roddus.blogspot.co.nz/2014/10/lake-guyon-4-5th-october-2014.html>

Not quite Carrington Peak

“I’m climbing Carrington Peak with the CTC next weekend, you should come” said Radu as we were walking down the Cameron Valley after a long day climbing Mount Arrowsmith. I’d gotten back from the Northern Hemisphere a few days prior and was feeling more like the mountain had climbed me. So the thought of uninspired slogging around the Waimak in less than a week’s time seemed almost as frightening as the mile of walking we still had to go. Even subsequent sleep and chocolate didn’t make me feel more inspired. At least the forecast, which apparently had been good for the whole month I was away, was sure to be bad. However, to my dismay, as the week progressed, the forecast for the upcoming weekend just kept improving. Also increasing was my fear of missing out.

So on Friday 5 September, for about the fifth week in a row, I found myself heading, like a zombie, to an airport to catch a plane (this time, just an hour’s flight from Wellington to Christchurch). Wistfully relinquishing the prospect of finding out whether I really could stay asleep for a whole weekend, I was propelled southward by the knowledge that Radu would gleefully rub it in if he climbed Carrington Peak without me.

This was my first trip with the CTC, so I expected that I wouldn’t know anyone except for Radu. All eight participants (Steve, Andrew, Toni, Gina, Ruth and Natasha, in addition to Radu and me) met in Christchurch, just after dark, before heading to Arthurs Pass. It turned out that I’d bumped into Ruth while climbing just over a year prior, and it was very nice to renew the acquaintance.

Usually upon arrival at Arthur’s Pass, people just roll out of their cars and into bed. Not so the CTC. Within moments of our arrival at the club hut, the lounge was brimming with bought chocolate, baked chocolate, plain chocolate, and even some non-chocolate temptations that were also delicious and maybe slightly alcoholic. The ‘sugar’ really got to some people after a while, including a fellow who introduced himself as “Ick”. Ick was there to instruct aspiring CTC mountaineers, and had lost a syllable somewhere during an additional serving of Toni’s popular baked chocolate madness.

Having stayed up slightly too late, and perhaps having eaten slightly too much, dawn came too soon for our trudge up the Rolleston River. The five women set off with Radu as our chaperone, making sure we behaved fittingly, while Steve and Andrew did a car shuffle so we could come out via the Waimak the next day. We regrouped shortly after the sidle that brings you to your first view of the route to the saddle. Steve had been up this way before, but had decided to stay in the river rather than take the high sidle. Having taken the sidle one autumn, I was able to summarise the route as: ‘vicious scree bordered by overhanging tussock, culminating in overhanging avalanche debris’.

Awkwardly, the terrain turned out to be pretty straightforward. Steve gallantly suggested that rain had softened the scree, and he avoided the overhanging tussock by hitching a lift upwards on a large snow patch. Worse still, the overhanging avalanche debris had vanished, even though it was early spring. In fact, Steve and Gina were so disappointed about the ease of travel that they decided to do a *real* high sidle, which probably won’t form a part of DoC’s recommended route anytime soon. Overall, it was a pleasant and scenic, but somewhat perplexing, walk up to our lunch stop on a rocky outcrop by the snowline. Well two rocky outcrops. I sat on my own, which I thought might be because I was from the North Island, but it turned out to be because Andrew had started a rumour that I had ebola!

After lunch we headed up some gentle slopes to reach the saddle, Steve and Radu taking turns at plugging steps in the soft afternoon snow. The snow-clad setting contrasted strikingly with my memories of the route when stripped to rock, both occasions being spectacular in their own right. At the saddle the group split, with some choosing to continue on to the hut to allow for the building of experience before the tackling of peaks. The rest of us continued on to summit Armstrong.

One of the many reasons Radu gave for not being able to write a trip report (Steve being unable to pin it on anyone except me), was that he would not be able to praise his own step plugging up Armstrong (one does not blow one's own trumpet).

I asked the others how they would describe his efforts, not wanting to be impartial about a friend. I received the following comment from one particularly grateful step user:

Radu set off like Moses, the snowy slopes pliantly parting at his feet to reveal a red-carpeted route to the summit. On the way, several avalanches threatened to fall on our heads and crevasses open at our feet. Radu was not impressed. When the cracks opened he used his free hand to fill them back up – the other was busy holding up a stop sign. If it had been anyone else, I don't know if this would have halted the avalanches, but they just weren't going to mess with Radu. At one point a gigantic yeti poked its head out of the top of a terrifying ice fall, but one pointed look from Radu was enough to make it yield its stash of oranges and retire to Everest Base Camp. I don't know how Radu did it, but I do think Radu will be my choice of step pluggers and summit orange providers on all future CTC trips.

In light of this, it did not take us long to reach the summit of Armstrong (it is, after all, little more than 300 metres from the saddle). From here we took in orange segments, as well as clear views, no cloud in sight - a beautiful place on a beautiful day – and the food wasn't bad either. I thought the western slopes of the peak very eye-catching, and in firmer conditions they could potentially offer some aesthetic, short and steep routes from a serene basin camp.



The team at Waimak Col

After descending the mountain we headed straight for Waimak Falls Hut, where we found two boys already in residence, leaving four bunks for us. Some-one suggested the non-members could sleep outside, to which I responded that I was happy for all non-CMC members to do so. However, Steve and Radu quickly volunteered to stay out, and Andrew and Toni to share a bunk, and so we filled up the rest of the afternoon and evening trying to co-ordinate space to sit down, stand up and boil water. As people settled down for the night, I headed out to join Steve under Toni and Andrew's fly. As I crawled into the tent outer, I did wonder briefly if the warm night might have to do something with the thick bank of clouds that was extending across the sky ...

The first thing that went wrong the next day was that we woke up to find it was raining – inside the tent. I looked down derisively at the bivvy bag I was sleeping on (rather than in), as droplets of sweat (admittedly, most likely my own) were shaken by the wind onto my sleeping bag. As I left the tent, the second thing that went wrong was that I casually mentioned to Steve “it's raining”, though this might have been a slight exaggeration - the clouds from the evening before had simply condensed as the air temperature reached that of the dew point overnight, into non-threatening little droplets. We had also only woken when we did, as we'd heard a door slam, and this quickly proved to be the third thing that went wrong. We had woken up an hour late and everyone was leaving without us! Or so Steve thought. However, it turned out that the group was cohesively running an hour late. This was explained by the person who set the alarm as a consequence of thinking I was sleeping on the floor and that getting up would be such a hassle in a small hut that it was better to just go back to sleep ...

Despite these few setbacks, everyone was soon busy cooking breakfast and getting ready to climb Carrington Peak. Everyone except Steve that is. Steve was quite affected by the two times that rain had been mentioned, and also by having too much sleep. He simply wrote our intentions down in the hut book as “Carrington Peak, then out” before announcing that he was heading down to Carrington Hut after his second breakfast.

There was some concern that this would give Steve an unfair advantage in respect to the food that would be on offer at the Bealey Pub later that day, so everyone eventually decided to head down with him.

And so we soon found ourselves basking in the hot sun at Carrington Hut, with Radu sadly sharing his Carrington Peak summit orange with us under clear blue skies. It also turned out that attacking the Waimak without climbing a peak first is not actually that unpleasant! So maybe we got it right after all – we certainly had a pleasurable walk out, especially once we could no longer see Carrington Peak silhouetted so clearly in the blue depths of the cloudless sky. Everyone was reasonably excited about going to the pub and getting back early, except Radu, as it turned out that skipping the peak meant we had gotten out too early for his favourite delicacy of lamb shanks.

As for me, I enjoyed my first trip with the CTC and it was nice to spend the weekend with a great bunch of people. I would particularly like to thank Steve for leading the trip and letting me join in. On reflection, I have to admit that being in the mountains always rates higher than copious amounts of sleep and inaction, though perhaps not as highly as doing all at the same time. It now just remains to be seen if Radu has enough oranges left in the tank to attack the Waimak once again this season ...

Climbers: Steve Bruerton, Andrew Smith, Toni Bachvarova, Natasha Sydorenko, Gina Andrews, Ruth Grey, Radu Popovici and Lorraine Johns (scribe)

17-19 October 2014

Fortune favours the brave (a trip to Mt. Barth)

As a general rule, its not a good idea to check the weekend forecast on a Tuesday. Besides it being generally bad, there is that uncertainty factor which bothers aspiring mountaineers. What if the rain will come too soon, what if there will be a lot of fresh snow, what if we won't get in time to the bakery in Fairlie etc....And so we decided to get back to work and worry about weekend plans on Thursday. And how right we were! On Thursday it looked as if there is a 50-50 chance that we might start the trip just after a burst of solid rain/snow and another 50-50 chance that we might get back to the cars before the next front hit. For anyone even vaguely familiar with math, that equals to a 100% chance of a great tramping trip.

So 6 of us left Christchurch at 7pm on a Friday and headed south pretending to ignore the dark sunset clouds which covered all the peaks in the west. Soon it was dark and we felt much better and only pretending to ignore the lack of shining stars. Stopping only to change drivers we were making good progress, passed through Omarama and met our first drops of rain for the weekend. A little after midnight we reached the 6-bunk Ahuriri base hut only to find 2 hunters from Dunedin who probably thought this was an armed police raid with so many torches shining in their faces. Steve chose to sleep outside on the porch, Andrew liked the feel of the wooden floor and the rest of us grabbed the rest of the free bunks. Soon it was all quiet again in the Ahuriri valley (except for the snoring of course).

In the morning we were all walking around the hut in disbelief at the cloudless blue sky and the amazing Ahuriri valley scenery. While we were gorging on our healthy flakes and porridges the hunters evened up the score with some disgusting bacon and egg breakfast then everybody went on their own merry way. We left the cars and started walking around 8.30am towards Canyon Creek. The walk in to our chosen campsite was very enjoyable at a leisurely pace with more than enough stops to admire the views or lighten our packs. Around 1pm we were at the bivy rocks at aprox 1300m and decided to sort out the accomodation fast as more droplets of rain were scheduled to arrive. We had 3 tents up and ready in no time, while Bill and Steve decided to use the bivy rock itself. Steve's city rebuild instincts got into action immediately and he spent the large part of the evening improving the walls of his den with more rocks and plastering everything with muddy grass. Picasso would have been proud. 5 of us (I was too lazy) decided to also do a short rekkie towards the end of the valley but we couldn't agree on a route for the next day so we decided to sleep on it and share our prophetic dreams in the morning. We all felt like we needed a sign from above with all the small avalanches pouring down the steep walls around us that evening.

Alarm clocks did their job at 4am and it was quite a surprise to see the fresh layer of snow which covered everything around the tents. After a quick breakfast we got ourselves ready and Steve said that he thinks we should go towards the left. Everybody immediately agreed that it was exactly what they were thinking and we were just about to leave when Steve said: "sorry, I actually meant to the right..." As he was the trip leader we chose to listen and entrust him with our lives. So to the right we went and we were out of the mist after less than 1 hour, getting onto some initially softish and later good hard snow perfect for cramponing. Once on the snow it was relatively straightforward, up to aprox 1800m then sidling left underneath the main peak. We found a nice open snow couloir not too steep and managed to reach the top after 10am. Views everywhere! Cook! Sefton! Aspiring! Earnslaw! absolutely 0 cloud and only a light breeze. Such a special place to be

in. Around 11am, after photos and the customary summit oranges, we started descending, some of us unroped, Steve and Roi still practising with the ropes and belays. Winds were getting stronger and without wasting too much time we were back at camp at 2pm with Mt. Barth summit already in clouds. After a brisk walk we got safe and dry to the cars at 6.30pm. (Note: if someone goes back there anytime soon and finds a pair of glasses around the top of the hill near the canyon there's a venison risotto BCC in it for you). A final pit-stop at the Omarama hotel/pub to get some food in (Tip: the lamb shanks in Omarama beat the Bealey pub ones hands down!!!) and by midnight we were all back in Christchurch. Can't wait for the next weekend far away from home! And you? :)

Participants: Steve Bruerton (leader), Tom Hu, Bill Johnson, Andrew Tromans, Roi, Radu Popovici (scribe)



Canyon Creek with Mt. Heim in background

Classifieds

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

External Events

Wanted volunteers: The North Canterbury branch of Forest & Bird run a stoat trapping programme near the Boyle village. Forest & Bird have a warm, comfortable hut which is used as a base located just off the main highway. With the beech mast season upon us, we have an urgent need for more volunteers. If you have an interest in conservation, then this is an ideal opportunity to get involved in a local project. A brief description of the project can be found at www.forestandbird.org.nz/north-canterbury/stoat-trapping If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lesley Shand email: wayleggo13@xtra.co.nz Phone: 379 0316

More about the CTC

Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<i>Overnight Trip Organiser:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425
<i>Vice President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Kate Taylor	980-8224
<i>Secretary:</i>	Angela Lowery	0220889370	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Bernhard Parawa	337 3125
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Natasha Sydorenko	0223140684	<i>Editor:</i>	Sam Cook	344-0083
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Adrian Radcliffe	0278390450
<i>New Members Rep:</i>	Chris McGimpsey	03 3589125	<i>IT Convenor:</i>	Richard Lobb	351-2344
<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Bryce Williamson	351-6366			

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 337 3125 or 027 212 7498; or if he's away, Rex Vink 352-5329; or if they're both away, Andrew Wrapson 980-6006. Hut fees are \$15 member, \$15 member's partner, \$20 non-member, \$5 kids under 12. If you find any problems or maintenance required, please tell the hut convenor, Adrian Radcliffe, ph 0278390450.

Equipment Hire: The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Bernhard Parawa, ph. 337 3125. 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 20 November 2014 – Thanks.
