



# 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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*Just after the bush bash (from Gloriana trip)*

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:** Until 1 February 2015 we meet on Wednesdays 7:30 pm at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre (Watling Lounge), Hagley Park South, 57 Riccarton Avenue (entrance opposite the hospital). From 1 February onwards the venue will be Room 533, Rutherford Building, the University of Canterbury. 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](mailto: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 25 March	Club Night
<p><b>How to Map GPS logs onto 3D Google Earth Images:</b> Bryce, Richard L, and a few others have taken to adorning their tramping photo albums with GPS logs mapped onto 3D Google Earth images. There have been some expressions of interest in finding out how to do this. So on this night, Bryce is going to run through the process while we enjoy a post-newsletter-folding cuppa.</p>	
<p>Thursday 26 March Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace</p>	<p>Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045</p>
<p><b>CTC Hill Climb:</b> Meet at 6:15pm, on the corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace, every Thursday evening for an hour of power walking/tramping in the Mt Vernon Park. No trip list, just turn up - except if wet or if there is a public holiday next day. Note new day of THURSDAY.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Mar Map: Approx: \$0</p>
<p>Saturday 28 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 <a href="mailto:trampgeek@gmail.com">trampgeek@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Mt Barrosa:</b> In the Clent hills, Mt Barrosa is a wee bit further west than Mt Somers and a wee bit lower too (1364 m). It is an interesting geological area (Barrosa andesite) and rumour has it that keen rock hounds can find geodes (whatever they are). Historians and linguists will appreciate that this is not the 'red earth barossa', redolent of red wine, but the 1811 Peninsula Wars version - New Zealand was, after all, originally a colony . . . Those just there for the tramping can enjoy the 800 m climb on mostly open tussock hillside with good views all the way up. Given enough bods for a car drop together with suitable levels of enthusiasm and energy we'll continue beyond the summit over Pts 1355 m, 1218 m and 969 m and descend a spur to the Stour River, where there's a track back out to the road.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 26 Mar Map: BX19 Approx: \$25</p>

Saturday 28 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905
<b>Paterson Steam:</b> A loop up the side of the Waimakariri Gorge with views across to the Oxford side. This tramp is mostly on farm tracks on relatively flat terrain. Time: 4-5 hours. Accompanied kids are OK but contact leader first.	Grade: Easy/family Closes: 26 Mar Map: BW21 Approx: \$15	
Weekend 28-29 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Li Li 0212363211
<b>Lake Kaurapataka:</b> 7km and only 150m height gain but you will get your feet wet crossing the Otira River at the start of the trip. Lake Kaurapataka nestles into a bush clad hollow in the Taramakau Valley. Quiet and with a more remote feeling than its short tramp would indicate, its a lovely peaceful place to camp on the waters edge.	Grade: Easy Closed: 19 Mar Map: BU21 Approx: \$35	
Sunday 29 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com
<b>Banks Peninsula - Ridgeline:</b> This trip is the section of the ridge to the north of Lake Forsyth, extending Bruce's previous High Bare Peak tramp from Pt 424 m to trig A5MK (99m.) Great views to the south and Lakes Forsyth and Ellesmere. The terrain is a rolling ridge line with some on and off track, mostly over grazed farmland. Time: 5-6 hours. Accompanied kids are ok, but contact leader first.	Grade: Easy/family Closes: 26 Mar Map: BY24 Approx: \$10	
Wednesday 1 April		Club Night
<b>Social Night:</b> There are no formal plans for tonight's social gathering but do come along and share what you have been up to in the past week or three. There is always interest in "ooing" and aahing" over photos of other people's exploits, so if you care to, please bring your photos on a suitable drive (e.g. pen drive and/or laptop) and we will indulge in some vicarious adventuring.		
Long Weekend 3-6 April Easter. Early departure 2pm Thursday Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Warwick Dowling 021 35 4545 warwick.dowling@gmail.com
<b>Lake Nerine:</b> Located in the magnificent Humboldt Mountains north of the Routeburn Track area. This is a stunning tramping area with awesome scenery all around. There is some steep tussock country to traverse between Park Pass and Lake Nerine but generally the tops are straightforward travel. The Rock Burn and North Route Burn are both beautiful places to travel in and out of the area. And a crossing of Sugarloaf Pass makes it all a perfect loop trip. Note early departure 2pm Thursday.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Mar Map: CB09 CA09 Approx: \$80	

Long Weekend 3-6 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Manuka hut:</b> High country with flat walking. Come and explore the glacial basins of the Lake Heron area with Bruce. Bruce led a weekend trip in here last year and decided there were lots of places to investigate so he's heading back for a longer look around. Its about 3 hours walk in from the road to Manuka Hut, stay a night or two and then a further 2 or 3 hours on is the Double Hill Hut for a change of scenery.</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 26 Mar Map: BX19 Approx: \$35	
Saturday 4 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Kerrie Maynard 386-2850	
<p><b>Mt Isobel:</b> Mt Isobel (1324m) lies on the open poled tops between Jacks Pass to the west and Jollies Pass to the east. We go up via the delightful Dog Stream track: there is about 850m of height gain, some of it steep but on a marked route, through bush and then tussock slopes to the tops. This trip is on the gentler side of moderate and would make a great step-up for trampers looking to see how they go on something a bit harder than easy moderate - or a well-earned less demanding day for people recovering from those hard-out Christmas trips ...</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 2 Apr Map: BU24 Approx: \$25	
Sunday 5 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<p><b>Old Coach Road/Trig M:</b> This trip in the Korowai-Torlesse Tussocklands Park is a repeat of one scheduled in March that didn't run. We will start at the base of Porters Pass and follow the Old Coach Road, the route taken by the Cobb and Co. coaches in the 19th Century. Then an unmarked easily followable trail along the crest and Starvation Gully route up to Trig M. Great views of Lake Lyndon and surrounding area. Around 700 m height gain. The return will follow the Coach Stream route down past Kowai Forest and back to the cars.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 2 Apr Map: BW21 Approx: \$15	
Wednesday 8 April		Club Night	
<p><b>The Olivine Ice Plateau:</b> Lying at the heart of Mt Aspiring National Park is the Olivine Wilderness Area, resting against the western edge of the main divide, reaching some seventy kilometres from the Olivine to the Te Naihi rivers. Inside this vast area, all signs of human presence have been removed. There are no huts to provide shelter and no marked tracks to show the way. The area covers some of the most rugged mountain terrain anywhere in New Zealand... sounds like just another day out with the CTC really. No, really, it is a challenging area, one which several Club members were keen to explore so packed their bags and did so. Several others of us did not get around to the "packing our bags" bit (or the fitness level required) so are very keen to hear about it. Between them, Jonathan, Jeff, Steve, Bernhard and Andrew have a lot of photos to show and tales to tell. One, some or all of them will share their experiences with us tonight!</p>			

Saturday 11 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: David Sutton 0211808081 david.sutton@cdhb.govt.nz	
<b>Peveiril Peak:</b> Peveiril Peak (1755m) sits on the true left of the Poulter, almost opposite the Binser Saddle track. We'll need permission for some of the access but there are a few different options we can use. Total height gain is about 1300 m.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 9 Apr Map: BV21 Approx: \$30	
Saturday 11 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Jeff Hall 338-0922 jeff.hall2@lifetech.com	
<b>Wilding pine day #1 - Upper Waimakariri Basin:</b> Here's a great opportunity to spend a day in the outdoors killing trees in the high country with like-minded people. It's also a chance to admire and experience the skills of our four-wheel-drive brethren. The aim of this activity is to help rid the Upper Waimakariri Basin of wilding pines. A \$30 donation will be paid to the club for each member that attends. You pay nothing and ECAN provides the tools, briefings, and organises 4WD transport. Bring your own lunch, wet weather gear and water. Contact the trip organizer if you are planning to bring chainsaw as ECAN has specific trained operator requirements. These days are great fun, and in addition to the warm glow of healthy exercise you can take home a bit of the saintly aura of an eco-warrior!		Grade: Moderate numbers needed by the 2nd April Map: Approx: \$0	
Weekend 11-12 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Andrew Smith andrew.smiffy@gmail.com	
<b>Gerhardt Spur West Coast:</b> Toni and Smiffy are looking for an adventure. Care to join the fun? Gerhardt Spur is a long ridge which divides the Diedrich and Muriel Creek catchments between the Whitcombe River and the Te Aroha Rivers. There are fantastic views from the Biv out over the Kowhiterangi Plain to the Tasman Sea in a neat area but the track is overgrown and will provide an energetic weekend. Trip numbers will be limited to around 6 in order to keep things manageable so don't be too slow to sign up.		Grade: Hard Closes: 2 Apr Map: BV18 Approx: \$50	
Weekend 11-12 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Li Li 0212363211 ahhlili01@hotmail.com	
<b>Rocky Creek - Griffin Creek:</b> An old favourite this one: an interesting West Coast trip with a mixture of bush, riverbed, and track. The trip heads along some rough tracks and riverbed in the Rocky Creek then over a bush saddle to the well-situated Griffin Creek Hut. This hut has an outdoor bath, a wonderful outlook and blue ducks in the river. Sunday sees a climb to the bush line to a great view point before dropping back to the road.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 2 Apr Map: BU19 BU20 BV20 Approx: \$40 + hut fee	

Sunday 12 April  
Departure point: To be arranged

Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905  
Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Avoca Homestead/Mt Rosa:** The intention for this trip is to get a head start via the wilding pine day on the Saturday. All going well, after killing pine trees on that day we will drive along the Craigieburn Road and stay in or around the historic Avoca Homestead. That will mean that we will be able to tackle the relatively modest slopes of Mt Rosa at the entrance to the Waimakiri Gorge on Sunday morning and be back in Christchurch fairly early. Some logistical planning will be necessary, so make sure you contact the leader.

Grade: Easy  
Closes: 9 Apr  
Map: BW21  
Approx: \$25

Sunday 12 April  
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914  
susan@toniq.co.nz

**Norma:** A nice 1000-odd m climb to Norma, 1722 m, in the Opera Range (Lewis Pass), with a surprisingly good track (not on the map) through most of the bush, then open tussock leading to a rocky ridge. Be one of the relatively few people to discover what a lovely tramp this is. We may do an early start - make sure your name's on the list or you have contacted the leader.

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 9 Apr  
Map: BT23  
Approx: \$30

Wednesday 15 April

Club Night

**Stirling Range Travers:** In mid-2014, Bryce traveled to Perth to visit his younger daughter, Shannon; partly a father-daughter catch-up, but also to traverse the Stirling Range, Western Australia's highest mountains (they have been known - that is to say, at least once - to have snow). On the map this looked like a doddle by Kiwi standards - 20-odd km with a maximum height of 1100 m - not much more than a mildly testing day walk. But it turned out to be much more challenging - and spectacular - than he expected. Oh yes, and he saw some birds too.

Saturday 18 April  
Departure point: Caltex Russley

Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905  
Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Pegasus Bay kids trip:** Starting from Pines Beach, we follow the Pegasus Bay Walkway along the Waimakariri Banks through Ashkeaton Park to the Information Centre Playground. Accompanied kids and buggies are ok, but contact the leader first. No Bad weather option is planned.

Grade: Easy/family  
Closes: 16 Apr  
Map: BW24  
Approx: \$10

Saturday 18 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Jeff Hall 338-0922
<p><b>Wilding pine day #3 - Upper Waimakariri Basin:</b> Here's a 2nd great opportunity to spend a day in the outdoors killing trees and replaces the earlier day that was cancelled due to bad weather. The aim of this activity is to help stop the spread of wilding pines this time the area will be from Lake Lyndon across to Porters Ski Field road and then across to Dry Stream. A \$30 donation will be paid to the club for each member that attends. You pay nothing and ECAN provides the tools, briefings, and organises bus transport. Bring your own lunch, wet weather gear and water. Contact the trip organizer if you are planning to bring chainsaw as ECAN has specific trained operator requirements. These days are great fun, and in addition to the warm glow of healthy exercise you can take home a bit of the saintly aura of an eco-warrior! Fingers crossed the weather is on our side this time.</p>	Grade: Moderate numbers needed by the 10th April Map: Approx: \$0	

Weekend 18-19 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Jonathan Carr 351-1574 jonathan@jonathancarr.com
<p><b>Celtic Peak:</b> Note changed date - JC is hoping for some early season snow to make for better photos. Celtic Peak and its slightly taller and much steeper neighbor, Highland Peak, cradle a small alpine tarn at the very head of the Dingle Burn. Getting there will involve driving in to the Ahuriri Base Hut, 600m up on the old deer cullers pack track then 500 down into the Dingle Burn. Then its 5 or 6 km steady climb up the valley to the tarn. Climb Celtic Peak on Sunday morning for view across the Hunter River to Mt Brewster, east to Mt St Mary, and down Lake Hawea toward Wanaka. Back to camp and retrace your steps back out. Jonathan is quite keen to make this a 3 day trip to allow a little more exploring in the area, that could allow staying at top Dingle Hut for a couple of nights. Please indicate if you want to do a 2 or 3 day trip.</p>	Grade: Moderate Closes: 9 Apr Map: BZ13 BZ14 Approx: \$50	

Weekend 18-19 April Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Keith Dekkers 021 1277202 332-1908 keithdek@hotmail.com
<p><b>French Peak Sleepover:</b> Trip take 2 - still looking for that good forecast. A late start from Chch. Climb Mt French in the afternoon, set up camp and spend an evening cooking dinner as the sun sets west into the Tasman. Wander back down and head home. Even with a coffee or two on the way you'll still be able to mow the lawns to round off the weekend.</p>	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 9 Apr Map: BU19 Approx: \$40	

Sunday 19 April Leader: Natasha Sydorenko 0223140684  
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui n.sydorenko@hotmail.com

**Avalanche Peak-Mt Bealey Traverse:** This is a club classic, with a bit of everything: beech forest, waterfalls, keas, three peaks, 3 km of ridge-top travel, great views, some gentle scrambling, a great scree run, a bit of a river bash. We go up Avalanche Peak (1833 m) the usual direct way, then traverse the ridge tops over Lyell Peak (1828 m) to Mt Bealey (1838 m). The route calls for a bit of scrambling on mediocre rock but there's no major exposure. From Mt Bealey we descend scree to Rough Creek and then splash, bash and boulder hop our way out to the road. There may be an early start - contact the leader.

Grade: Moderate+  
 Closes: 16 Apr  
 Map: BV20  
 Approx: \$30

Sunday 19 April Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905  
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Banks Peninsula - Mount Evans:** Starting from Purau Saddle (420 m) we climb along the ridgeline past pts 499 and 594 m to Mount Evans (703 m) -- A57L) to enjoy the great views of Purau, Port Levy and Lyttelton. Accompanied kids are ok, but contact the leader first. The bad-weather option will be the Packhorse Hut.

Grade: Easy/family  
 Closes: 16 Apr  
 Map: BX24  
 Approx: \$10

Sunday 19 April Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360  
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui newmike@slingshot.co.nz

**Mt Grey/Maukatere:** This is one of the most accessible of the bumps in the northern foothills and makes a popular easy/moderate trip. We will start from the Grey River Picnic Area and take the Mt Grey Track which climbs steadily through native bush before opening out onto tussock slopes leading to the trig on the summit of Mt Grey (934 m). Great views from the summit. We then descend via the Red Beech Track, crossing the Grey River about half way down and back out to the picnic area. Round trip, 14 km and 600 m height gain.

Grade: Easy/Mod  
 Closes: 16 Apr  
 Map: BW23  
 BV23  
 Approx: \$15

Wednesday 22 April Club Night

**Social Night:** There is no formal arrangement tonight. Milling and talking is encouraged, and there will be the opportunity to "show and tell" if you would like to bring your photos along to share.

Saturday 25 April Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905  
 Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Coleridge Area - Acheron Exploring:** Starting from the Lyndon Road, we cross the Upper Acheron Flats and Benmore Stream, finishing at the Coleridge Road. This completes Bruce's route from the Rakaia Gorge Bridge to Lake Lyndon. Terrain: river flats with uphill bits between. Time: 4-5 hours

Grade: Easy  
 Closes: 23 Apr  
 Map: BW20  
 Approx: \$15

Saturday 25 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: David Sutton 0211808081 david.sutton@cdhb.govt.nz
<b>Mt Barron:</b> The track starts near Otira and takes you up a spur and along to the Holts Creek basin. From this basin we will climb up to the ridge west of Mt Barron to get to the summit (1730 m). There are good views from Mt Barron over to the West Coast. From Mt Barron we will descend down a spur north of Goat Creek to Otira township.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 23 Apr Map: BV20 Approx: \$35

Long Weekend 25-27 April Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Li Li 0212363211 ahhlili01@hotmail.com
<b>Mt Titiroa:</b> The objective of this trip is to climb Mt Titiroa (1715m) which has great views and really weird wind-sculptured granite rocks spread all over its summit. It's the peak that always looks like it has snow on it as you are driving along the main road in to Te Anau. Well start by getting a water taxi across the Waiau River (\$5 or so) then tramp 2-3 hours through to Hope Arm Hut. We will camp out somewhere on Mt Titiroa one night and there might be a possibility to do a crossover trip to go out the Borland Valley. Trip will leave at Friday midday, thus half day off work is required.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 16 Apr Map: CE07 C44 Approx: \$70-\$80

Sunday 26 April Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com
<b>Port hills - Witch Hill:</b> Starting from Centaurus Road, the route at first along streets then up a spur to Witch Hill (421m) on the ridgeline. Return back to the cars and then rehydration at a coffee shop. Accompanied kids are ok but contact leader first. Height: 421 m Time: 4 hours.	Grade:  Easy/All/Social Closes: 23 Apr Map: BX24 Approx: \$5

Wednesday 29 April	Club Night
<b>Annual General Meeting:</b> This is your opportunity as a member to help contribute to the running of the club by standing for one of the available committee positions. All positions on the committee are annually elected by the club membership attending the AGM, and anyone can stand for any position: this is encouraged. We need you! Details of the roles are in the 2014 CTC Club Rules, which can be downloaded from the web site.	

Saturday 2 May Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Banks Peninsula - Oashore Bay loop:</b> Oashore Bay is an indent in the south-east coast of Banks Peninsula, just before it runs into the shingle of Kaitorete Spit at Birdlings Flat, that was used by Maori as a harbour. The route will be across the outlet of Lake Forsythe, over the headland (pt 181 m) to Oashore Bay, then onto the next headland, returning via pt 420 m past the Oruaka Pa site.</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 30 Apr Map: BY24 Approx: \$10	
Weekend 2-3 May Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Natasha Sydorenko 0223140684 n.sydorenko@hotmail.com	
<p><b>Mt Technical, Lewis Tops camp:</b> Flushed with success on Gloriana, Natasha is off to the Lewis Pass area again. This time its up on to the tarn studded tussock Lewis Tops. Great camping and then a good scramble up Mt Technical.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 23 Apr Map: BT23 Approx: \$40	
Sunday 3 May Early start Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Alastair Brown 338-1324 alastairbrown@yahoo.com.au	
<p><b>Mt Taylor:</b> At 2333 m, Mt Taylor is the highest of Canterbury "foothills". Trampers often attempt this peak with an overnight stay at Double Hut. But this time we'll attempt it in a single day from Christchurch. It will be an early start from Christchurch -- probably 7 am but maybe earlier, so make sure that you contact the leader.</p>		Grade: ModHard Closes: 30 Apr Map: BX19 Approx: \$35	
Sunday 3 May Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<p><b>Peak Hill:</b> 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 beautiful Lake Coleridge. From the saddle we'll continue up through the tussocks to the broad summit at 1240 m, to give about 600 m height gain altogether. A great trip at any time of year.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 30 Apr Map: BW20 Approx: \$20	
Saturday 9 May Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905	
<p><b>Robinsons Bay to Okains Peak via Lavericks:</b> From Robinsons Bay Valley Road we will ascend to the Summit Rd, then through the Land of the Fairies to Lavericks, a 755 m peak on the Akaroa crater rim with 360 degree views. We will then descend back to the Summit Road to bag Okains Peak before returning to Robinsons Bay. Rehydration at Little River. The round trip should take about 5 hours. Kids are OK, but contact the leader first.</p>		Grade: Easy/family Closes: 7 May Map: BX25 Approx: \$20	

Sunday 10 May		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<b>Port Hills:</b> A trip somewhere on the Port Hills. Contact the leader for details or just sign up and take your chances.		Grade: Easy	Closes: 7 May
		Map:	Approx:
Saturday 16 May		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui			
<b>Ted's Track:</b> This is a route linking the Maori Reserve Road end of the Blowhard Track and the Mt Richardson Bypass track . The trip will start at the end of Maori Reserve Road, a short section of the Blowhard Track, then along Ted's Track, up the Bypass Track and back down the Blowhard Track. A nice round trip, mostly in bush and providing an interesting variation to walks in that area.		Grade: Easy/Mod	Closes: 14 May
		Map: BW23 BW22	Approx: \$15
Weekend 16-17 May		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz	
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui			
<b>Arthurs Pass Basecamp:</b> Come one , come all. Big walks, little walks. Flat walks, steep walks. Wet walks, dry walks. Sunny walks (hopefully), shady walks. Walks with ropes if that's your preference. Oh, and there is quite a lot of firewood rounds need splitting and putting in the woodshed. Put a solid effort into some splitting and we might even knock a \$1 off your hut fees. Let Chris know if you want to do a potluck dinner or prefer to head to the Wobbly for a pizza.		Grade: All	Closes: 7 May
		Map: BV20 K33	Approx: \$30 + hut fees
Sunday 17 May		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui			
<b>Ladbrooks Hill:</b> 1030 m (A9V0). Now that the wasps are chilled, it's time to reclaim our bush and bag another peak. Located at the entrance to the Ashley Gorge, overlooking Lees Valley, Ladbrooks Hill affords great views over the Ashley Gorge, Lees Valley and the Puketeraki Range. Time 4 - 5 hours.		Grade: EasyMod	Closes: 14 May
		Map: BW22	Approx: \$15

Sunday 17 May Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
<b>TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners":</b> 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 popular demand this will be similar to the earlier TORTIS tours run late last year. This is a interesting way for new trampers to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire, what to do if the trip leader is lost etc. 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.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 14 May Map: BW22 Approx: \$15

Sunday 24 May Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
<b>TORTIS Tours presents, "How to get lost for beginners":</b> 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 popular demand this will be similar to the earlier TORTIS tours run late last year. This is a interesting way for new trampers to learn and refine the simple skills of route finding, building a shelter, lighting a fire, what to do if the trip leader is lost etc. 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.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 21 May Map: BW22 Approx: \$15

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# Trip Reports

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1 February 2015

## Purple Hill and Lake Pearson

7 of us set out on the trip to Purple Peak, but only after we'd shaken off a wannabe trumper who was equipped with enthusiasm and a dog but insufficient knowledge to meet the joining criteria set for our posse: 1) know who you're going with and 2) know where you're going and what you're doing. His comments went something like: 'Aren't you all in Bruce's club?' 'Purple Peak? Where's that?' 'Yeah, I am a moderate trumper but I'm not sure I can do 1000m climb.' He was told gently but firmly by our leader that neither he nor his dog would be joining us, much to the relief of the rest of the group!

At Springfield, we witnessed the ambulance and fire truck set off up the Porters Pass road with sirens blazing. A van had rolled on the corner just by Lake Lyndon. The car with the doctor in it was obliged to stop, but luckily the air ambulance arrived on scene shortly after the trampers so it wasn't necessary to get the triangular bandage out of the first aid kit. The 2 passengers had had a lucky escape - not only to walk away from the accident but also to avoid needing treatment from an out of place GP who was more interested in climbing hills than treating patients!

It took a little time to locate the correct access point on to the north end of Lake Pearson and we got a little muddy trying to find our way along the shore. Top tip for future trips: best to stick to the fence line to avoid the mud. There was some disagreement as to the best way through the bush up the northern slope of the hill. I could have done with gaiters on my shoulders as well as my legs when following Richard K and Bryce through the matagouri!

We stopped for a short lunch at the top of the steepest slope discussing the glacial features of the landscape we could see. I'm afraid the finer details of geology were wasted on me as I was more interested in eating my lunch. Whilst admiring the view we could see rain clouds making their way over Sugar Loaf towards us so pushed on to the summit to find a 'nice' scree slope. I was listening with interest to tips on choosing and descending scree slopes as this was my first time. The slope that was selected was in parts quite bony - rock with only a thin layer of scree, and there were also plenty of places where there were some chunkier rocks. I had nothing to compare it to but the more experienced trampers tell me this was not a good scree slope. There was disappointment as it had looked promising from the road. Speculation was made that perhaps some of the other scree shoots on that slope might be better and maybe future club trips could report on this.

After more matagouri at the bottom of the slope we prepared our bags to make the short crossing at the isthmus of the lake. The fisherman at that spot tried to scare us with tales of large eels seen in the waters - fear mongering as revenge, perhaps, for having his fish scared off by noisy, chatty trampers? So with packs and boots in dry sack, and wearing as few clothes as we dared we all swam the short distance across Lake Pearson to return to our vehicles and make-shift changing room. Discretion will kept me from revealing the identity of trumper who accidentally left their underwear flapping in the breeze to dry on the rear windscreen wiper for the trip back to Springfield. Though I may change my mind when it comes to nominations for the Loo-Loo of the year award.

On the trip: Susan (leader), Bryce, Richard K, Kerrie, Carol E, Elizabeth (scribe) and Peter

14-15 February 2015

## Dasler Pinnacles

On Friday evening, 5 of us left CHCH in 2 cars and headed to Fairlie via Geraldine. At Fairlie we met up with Estée, and Max. 5 left Fairlie in Max's car, and 2 in Jovan's, leaving Adam's car there. At Twizel, we met up with Angela and she squeezed into Jovan's cab. We drove as far as the public road end up the Hopkins Valley beyond Lake Ohau, and camped for the night @ ~ midnight.

We broke camp ~ 8am on Saturday morning, and drove the ~ 4 kms to Monument Hut on the rough 4WD track. Boots or river shoes are donned and off we go – straight into the first of a number of river crossings as we head for Red Hut. Clouds are low, southerly breeze cool, so we wrap up to balance heat loss from wet feet. Some avoid the water reaching the level that generates fluting in the upper octaves, but most don't. We stop for a brew and warm up at Red Hut, then on to the base of the Dasler Pinnacles Track. Wet feet are exchanged for dry.



Dasler Pinnacles 20150214-15

*Cloud clearing on Sunday morning*

Now into the climb. After ~ 4 hours from Monument Hut we reach the Dasler Biv at 1100m. We meet 2 guys who are about to go down after waiting for a day for the weather to improve in the hope that they could climb the Pinnacles. They confirm the presence of a high camp in a good location with water, and our leader Cristina is firm that we should proceed to it. There was nothing for it, but to comply. As we ascend we approach the cloud layer, which is also lifting. You can't see the camp until you are almost upon it, as you have to be at almost 1800m elevation to see where it might be. Knowing the co-ordinates helps. When the camp is reached we are elated with the views, the warmth from the sun, and the quality of the camp – soft grass, flat, with running water close by, the highest bit of green to be seen.

We pitch tents, have a brew, and then wander in the late afternoon sun to a local high point NW of the camp at spot height 1840m. From there the drop-offs are dramatic, and afford a time of playful photo ops. Back towards camp, Estée notes that there is a goat carcass sitting up dry on stones in the middle of our stream so we make sure that we boil our water. More social time and we prepare dinner and enjoy the last of the 4 hours of glorious late afternoon sun and views before hitting the sack. It is only very late in the day that we get a glimpse of the tops of the Pinnacles which have hitherto been shrouded. Excitement builds.

Sunday morning Plan A is for the leader to poke her nose out of the tent at ~ 6am and rouse us if we are out of the cloud, otherwise invoke Plan B which is to stay in bed another hour and try again. At 7ish we get up and have breakfast in thick cloud and plan to retreat if the clouds have not broken by 8:30am. At 8 we decide to push on up by 8:30, as someone got a brief glimpse of cloud clearing above. So we head northwards to the base of the NW ridge and before we reach the base we are above the cloud while in the shadow of the Pinnacles ridge. At the base, we are in sunshine under a very blue sky. Our spirits soar. A party of 3 (2 women and a man) overtake us here on their way to the Pinnacles too, but how could we mind on a day like today (or any day)?

We don helmets and ascend in 2 groups. Max tended to lead the first group (with Jovan, Ang, and Mark) and he tried show the way for the second group (Estée, Warwick, Cristina, and Adam) but eventually we went at our own pace and route led by Estée with Mark joining us too. Personally, I was thrilled with the 500 vertical metres of rock scrambling – it was challenging enough to make me pause every now and then but not so bad that I could not go on, especially as we had Estée giving us excellent & soothing advice on where and how to proceed safely. We had plenty of time, in the best of weather conditions, and our breaks were a good excuse for a look at the awesome view over the cloud tops to the sun-bathed mountains and glaciers to the west.

At ~ 11:30 we summited, enjoyed the views, took photos, snacked, and then made our way carefully east a little and then began the downclimb. Eventually we re-joined the ridge we had used on the ascent and arrived back at camp ~ 1:30pm for a late lunch. At 2:30 we broke camp and reached the cars at Monument Hut at 6:30pm.

We sampled drinks and chippies at Lake Ohau Lodge, which was humming with a busload of young tourists. But, alas, dinner for us was off the menu as the Lodge needs advance notice of patrons for dinner. So we proceeded to Twizel, fare-welled Ang (who was headed for Wanaka), looked for food and ended up at the takeaway cart. The sun dropped over the horizon, the breeze picked up, & the temperature plummeted. The hot chips and basic burger were divine to begin with, but by the end of the pottle I wish I had had something else. At Fairlie we fare-welled Estée, and hoped that we would see her on more CTC trips. Max departed for Timaru, and the rest of us drove to CHCH.

We got home safely after midnight, thanks to the enduring efforts of highway drivers Jovan and Adam. Thanks to Max and Jovan for taking us on the 4WD track to Monument Hut. Big thanks to Cristina for making this trip happen, and for keeping her sights on the high camp which made Sunday so much easier.

High camp co-ords are approximately: NZTopo50 map grid ref BY15 483 285, or Lat 43.953909°S, Long 169.863050°E, elevation 1800m.

Grade = Moderate

We were: Max De Lacey, Mark Stoffels, Angela Lowry, Jovan Andric, Estée Farrar, Adam Burke, Cristina Zablan (leader), & Warwick Dowling (scribe).

## Gloriana

On Friday, 3 of us left Christchurch just after 4pm. After an ice-cream stop in Culverden, we were at Lewis Pass carpark around 7pm. The sandflies launched their attack almost immediately, so we wasted no time in setting off down the St James Walkway. After a pretty straight-forward walk, we got to Ada Pass Hut at 10pm and proceeded to make snacks and hot drinks, waking up an American couple who'd been fast asleep in the hut. At around 12.30am, the Americans were woken up for the second time, this time by Toni and Smiffy who left Christchurch at 6pm.



*one of the many tarns*

On Saturday, the plan had been to get up around 5.30am, but this became 6.30am after Chris (who was our designated alarm clock) slept in for the first time in his life. Despite this 'late' start, we still managed to set off by 7.30am. The first part of the route was a bush bash straight up the ridge next to Ada Pass Hut. This wasn't the most pleasant experience, but we came out relatively unscathed, and continued our climb up the hill, now walking on scree. We came across a few tarns along the way, stopping for snack breaks and water bottle refills.

Once we ran out of tarns, Jonathan (who had by now usurped the trip leader mantle) presented us with two equally daunting looking cols as options for the next part of the climb. We chose the less scary looking one (near point 2087), which also had a nice snow patch for cramponing. Toni and Smiffy, who both had crampons, took the snow route, as did Jonathan (though without crampons). Chris and Natasha took a higher route on the left hand side, which resulted in a lot of loose scree being sent hurtling down in Toni and Smiffy's direction. And then, to her horror, Natasha dislodged a HUGE boulder that headed straight for Toni. The boulder was bouncing left and right, so it wasn't obvious which way Toni should go to get out of the way. Then, when the rock was a mere few metres from her, Toni jumped to one side and the rock went to the other. Disaster avoided!



*Gloriana as seen from the start of the St James Walkway*

When we reached the col, we saw that the rest of the route would be entirely on scree. At this point, Toni and Smiffy decided they'd had enough adventure for the day, and stayed on the col for a bit of a photo session before starting their journey back to the hut. The rest of us descended down some pretty crappy scree (too big for a quick descent, too small to be completely stable), losing at least 200m in height. While the height loss was not ideal, the descent still looked far easier than sidling. After a couple more hours of up and down on scree, and a bit of rock climbing thrown in for good measure, we were on the ridge that would lead us to Gloriana. We reached the summit at 2pm. Jonathan pointed out that that we took longer to summit than he and Bernhard had taken to summit AND return back to the hut when they did the trip one November. Given the slowness of walking on scree, and some bad weather that was threatening to come in, proceeding to Faerie Queene was definitely out of the question. We looked longingly at Faerie Queene and made silent promises to complete the trip another time.

The walk down from Gloriana took as long as the walk up to it, which speaks volumes about the quality of the terrain. At one point, as Natasha was descending down scree next to a rock wall, she once again dislodged a big rock (see photo above) behind her. Nek minnit, the rock had pinned Natasha's leg to the rock wall. Chris, who was nearby, was quickly trying to recall how to activate the PLB, but this didn't end up being necessary, as there were no broken bones. There was, however, a big bump, and Natasha hobbled back to the hut on one and a half legs, with Chris carrying her pack.

We were back at the hut by 7.30pm, and were greeted by Toni and Smiffy, who had prepared a feast of crackers and dip. The 12 hour day took its toll, and we were in bed by 8.30pm.

On Sunday morning, Toni and Smiffy set off at 6am. They had to be back in Christchurch early because Smiffy had to work. The rest of us had a leisurely start (after Chris slept in again) and left the hut at 9am. After another uneventful walk, stopping at Cannibal Gorge Hut to peruse old Wilderness magazines, we were back at the cars around 12.30pm, had

ice creams in Culverden and were back in Christchurch by 4pm.

People: Natasha Sydorenko (de jure trip leader and scribe), Jonathan Carr (de facto trip leader), Chris McGimpsey, Toni Bachvarova, Andrew Smith

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14 March 2015

## **Mt O'Malley**

1300m climbing, 10.5km

A good getaway was made from town with the 10 signed up members, all where they said they would be, when they said they would be there. Great!

Neither the bit of drizzle on the way to Springfield nor the fog hanging over Foggy Peak dampened our spirits as we headed for Arthur's on a good forecast. We were looking forward to a trip that promised not only social and scenic but swimming opportunities too.

Mt O'Malley was nominally our goal although at 1703m it was the lowest of the 3 peaks we traversed on our way to the highlight of the day – the blue/green sparkling mountain tarn. Access was by the track to the Devil's Punchbowl falls with the steps initially giving us a warm up, for the steep track after them, all the way to our lunch spot 900m higher and 2 hours later.

We found a spot out of the chilly wind and scoped out where we were headed and more importantly how we would get back. Although planning to return mostly down the same track we were going to loop back from the tarn across some potentially tricky terrain and wanted a better route than that done in December 2013.

Once fed and watered we continued up to point 1844m peak and then headed south over point 1768 to gain Mt O'Malley. Natasha seemed to think we could stick to the ridge from pt 1844 to 1768 but before any group decisions could be made the advance guard was long gone, some along the ridge most dropping down the other (Mingha) side skirting the rocky bits at least to the saddle.

The tarn is about 150m below Mt O'Malley and was easily reached from the top. It was 2:30pm when we got there, a gentle but chilly breeze was rippling the surface but it was still warm enough to contemplate a swim. A couple of us only got as far as paddling but I decided to go in as did Chris and then Rodney really showed us how it was done by diving in head first – brrrr!

From the tarn, Chris had worked out, that we needed to head for a very obvious notch in a rib of rock that came down across the rock basin between us and our route home. This involved a bit of climbing and a bit of sidling across the rock basin. Some of this rock was

none too stable and it got a bit too close for Mauricio's comfort at one stage. But this episode caused him to put his shirt back on, which was just as well really, since it cannot be assumed that just because us girls hardly even notice Alan Ross's overt fleshiness, we automatically extend that disinterested attitude to more exotic trampers (J)

Through the notch we could see across a big rock basin to the spur leading down from our lunch spot. We just needed to head across and down a bit to pop over the spur and rejoin the Mt Aiken track down to the valley. By now the westerly was picking up but it did not stop us appreciating the magnificent views in all directions.

We were back down sitting in the Wobbly Kea by about 5:30pm discussing the merits of Stones Ginger wine. As one of the drivers, I felt sorry for myself watching Chris sink 2 pints of dark ale, with small consolation gained by stealing some of Natasha's chips.

Never mind, it was the only downside of a good trip with a great bunch of people. Thanks for coming everyone. Susan (scribe and leader). Kate Taylor, Gareth Caves, Kerrie Maynard, Natasha Sydorenko, Heather Clay, Rodney Erikson, Chris McGimpsey (route finder), Mauricia Sirena, Bill Johnson.



*On top of O'Malley*

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# Classifieds

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

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## More about the CTC

### Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<i>Overnight Trip Organiser:</i>	Alan Ross	384-2989
<i>Vice President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	021 35 4545	<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	384-2989	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Brian Dougan	
<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 contact the hut convenor, Brian Dougan, srotje@yahoo.com.

**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](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz)) by 23 April 2015 – Thanks.

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