



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

February 2015

No. 9



*Descending Mt Somers towards saddle
(from Mount Somers Traverse)*

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. 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 28 January		Club Night
<p>Newsletter folding night: This will be our last meeting at the Horticultural Rooms. Next week we meet at our new Club Rooms at the University of Canterbury. Perhaps we could farewell our old meeting place with a few non-alcoholic drinks and some tasty snacks. Bring something to share if you wish. If you have some memories or tales to tell from our time at these club rooms, come and share with us.</p>		
Thursday 29 January 6.15 pm start Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
<p>CTC Hill Climb: 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: 29 Jan Map: Approx: \$0</p>	
Saturday 31 January Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
<p>Lake Georgina/Mt Georgina/Red Lakes: Situated in the alpine Lake Coleridge basin tussockland area. We set out from Lake Georgina (542 m), climbing up to Mt Georgina (944 m) for some great views We then descend through open scrub country to visit Red Lakes and out to the Lyndon Rd. The trip will involve a car shuffle.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 29 Jan Map: BW20 Approx: \$25</p>	

Weekend 31 January-1 February Departure point: Caltex Russley	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
Croesus Hut - Mt Watson Golden Loop: Leaving 8am Saturday morning. Drive to Blackball before walking 4 - 5hrs up the Croesus track exploring the old gold mine workings on the way in. Stay in the Ces Clarke hut Sat night with great views back down the valley, plus the chance to watch the sun set over the Tasman Sea. On Sunday after a good sleep & a big breakfast walk out along the tops from Croesus Knob to Mt Watson. This route out will reward the lucky trampers with 3 hours of fabulous views down the length of the West Coast. From Mt Watson there is perfectly good trail down through the bush which ends up back at the car park. A great mix of bush & tops walking with lots of great scenery, plus some historical mining equipment to look at. A brilliant West Coast weekend trip for someone wanting to step up to an overnight moderate trip.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 22 Jan Map: BT20 BT19 Approx: \$50

Sunday 1 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914 susan@toniq.co.nz
Purple Peak and Lake Pearson: Purple Peak and Mt St Bernhard form an impressive glaciated mountain block that stands about 1000 m above the Cass basin and is separated from the Craigieburn Range by picturesque Lake Pearson. The slopes are subtly coloured from yellow to orange loess to the argillite tones that give Purple Peak its name. Apart from these colours, one of the more striking aspects of this area is a huge scree slope from Purple Peak summit feeding a monstrous single fan that almost cuts Lake Pearson into two parts (hence its Maori name, Moana Rua). Our intention is to park near the north end of the lake, off SH 73, then ascend directly to the summit (1680 m) via the steep north-west ridge. From there, we'll descent ~700 m of scree to the neck of the lake and weigh up the possibility of pack floating the 50-or-so meters across to the western shore. If you are keen to try the pack float, bring a large and un-punctured dry bag for floatation and to keep your clothes dry.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 29 Jan Map: BV21 Approx: \$20

Wednesday 4 February	Club Night
New Venue!: Tonight we are meeting at our new venue at the University of Canterbury. We will be in Room 533, Rutherford Building. We will commemorate the occasion in our usual way - with food! Bring along a plate of any supper-type nibbles to share. I thought we could also check out the new technology with a selection of slides from our trips. Please do bring along any photos you wish to share from historic or recent tramping, cycling, kayaking, caving (etc) trips you have been on and we'll see if we can get the equipment to work! Live entertainment (music, oratory, modelling your 1980s tramping gear...) is also very welcome - the floor will be open to all. Security doors will be open for entry from 7:30 pm. See the club website (About the CTC : Where do we meet?) for a map showing the location of the room. Looking forward to seeing you there.	

<p>Thursday 5 February 6.15 pm start Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace</p>		<p>Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045</p>
<p>CTC Hill Climb -- 6:15pm-7:15pm during daylight saving hours: 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: 5 Feb Map: Approx: \$0</p>	
<p>Long Weekend 6-8 February Departure point: Contact Leader</p>		<p>Leader: Natasha Sydorenko 0223140684 n.sydorenko@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Ball Pass: Ball Pass Crossing is a serious alpine route, crossing the Mount Cook Range between the Hooker and Tasman Valleys. The route provides spectacular views of Aoraki/Mt Cook, Mt Sefton, the Copland Pass and the Hooker and Tasman Glaciers. The trip will start at the White Horse Hill camping area and travel up the East Hooker, over Ball Pass (sidling around under Mounts Rosa and Mabel) and down the Ball Ridge to the Tasman Valley and Ball Hut. Or possibly start in the Tasman and cross to the Hooker, depends which side of bed the leader gets out of. You will need alpine experience and appropriate gear. There may be a group doing a harder side trip to explore north over Turner and Proud peaks and attempt Pibrac (2514m)</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills) Closes: 29 Jan Map: BX15 BX16 Approx: \$45</p>	
<p>Long Weekend 6-8 February Departure point: Contact Leader</p>		<p>Leader: Leader required</p>
<p>Tarn Hut, Youngman Stream Hut: A cruisy couple of nights away in the hills in the Lees Valley behind Oxford. Tarn Hut is up near the top of Lilburn Hill, about 10km and 900m height gain. But that means its mostly all downhill on Saturday to Youngman Stream Hut. Then you can spend the afternoon climbing onto the Pancake Range. On Sunday follow the Youngman Stream down the valley back to the start.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 29 Jan Map: BV22 Approx: \$25</p>	
<p>Saturday 7 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui</p>		<p>Leader: David Sutton 0211808081 david.sutton@cdhb.govt.nz</p>
<p>Sudden Valley to the Hawdon: Sudden Valley Stream is a deeply gorged tributary of the Hawdon River, which it enters just before the Waimakariri River confluence. We will park at Hawdon Shelter then cross the Hawdon and head up Sudden Valley Stream. After the steep walk out of the gorge we continue up the beautiful Sudden Valley to the hut half way up. From the hut we climb out of valley heading west (true left) to gain the ridge near 1595 m, follow the ridge to 1565 m, then descend to the Hawdon River valley, which we will follow down to the shelter and cars.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 5 Feb Map: BV21 Approx: \$20</p>	

Sunday 8 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
---	---

<p>Nikau Palm Gully: We have not been able to do this trip for the last four years because of the danger of rock falls as a result of the earthquakes. So, here is your chance to see this little gem in the Akaroa Heads scenic zone with big cliffs, sea birds, palm trees and more. The gully is acclaimed as one of the best forest remnants in Canterbury with an amazing collection of huge nikau palms. Approximately 12 km of walking with some gently rolling hills and great views of Akaroa Harbour. This is one of the few peninsula tramps that gets you out close to the steep headlands and bays with a good safe track all the way.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+ Closes: 5 Feb Map: BY25 Approx: \$20</p>
--	--

Wednesday 11 February	Club Night
-----------------------	------------

<p>Washing Pots and Watching Polar Bears: Churchill, Manitoba, Canada is known as the accessible Arctic. Located along the southern edge of Canada's Arctic, Churchill is surrounded by the wildlife and habitat of three distinct eco-zones: arctic marine, arctic tundra and boreal forest. It is home to the most accessible population of polar bears. Join Lisa and Gareth on their six week volunteer stint at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre."</p>

Thursday 12 February 6.15 pm start Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
--	----------------------------------

<p>CTC Hill Climb: 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: 12 Feb Map: Approx: \$0</p>
--	--

Saturday 14 February departing 7.30 am Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
--	---

<p>Lake Emily/Manuka Hut: This trip in the Ashburton Lakes area follows part of the Te Araroa Trail. Starting just off the Hakatere-Heron Road, the track skirts past Lake Emily, climbs over a low ridge on Emily Hill and follows the Stour River. A side track leads upstream to Manuka Hut, an old musterer's shelter. Return the same way. Note: earlier meeting time.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 12 Feb Map: BX19 Approx: \$25</p>
--	--

Saturday 14 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p>Whites Gorge: A SUPER EASY tramp catering for families, kids and buggies, but a great experience for adults as well. Distance is 4.2 km (around South Hagley is further!) Height gain ~70 m over about 5 hours. We will go along farm tracks to the Waipara River, then up the river to Whites Gorge. The terrain is farm tracks, open grazed country and river beds with a safe river swimming hole and opportunity to go through the gorge. If the conditions unsuitable this trip will rescheduled. Important, contact leader mailto:TecBruce@Gmail.com before hand for information.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy/family Closes: 12 Feb Map: BV24 Approx: \$15</p>	
Weekend 14-15 February Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Cristina Zablan 03 374 6354 cristimo28@gmail.com	
<p>Dasler Pinnacles: I'm keen to go to Dasler Pinnacles in Hopkins Valley. The idea is to leave from Christchurch on Friday at around 4pm, then drive down all the way to Oamarama. On Saturday, we will head up to the Hopkins valley, climb to bushline and camp. Then climb the peak via North ridge on Sunday. This trip is moderate, plenty of rock scrambling and scree running. Here is the general info of the area: http://climbnz.org.nz/nz/si/canterbury/naumann-range/dasler-pinnacles</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 5 Feb Map: BY14 BY15 Approx: approx \$50</p>	
Weekend 14-15 February Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Craig Bunt 03-325-7764 crbenz@gmail.com	
<p>Totara Saddle, Calf Saddle, Gibson Hut: This trip is in the Clarence River area, north of Kaikoura. Climbing around 800m to the ridgeline then undulating along the tops through Totara Saddle and Calf Saddle then down Gibson spur to the hut beside the Clarence River. Return up Gibson Stream then pack tracks over Peninsula hill for views up the Clarence, across to Tapuae o Uenuku and out to sea.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 5 Feb Map: BS28 Approx: \$45</p>	
Sunday 15 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366 bryce.williamson68@gmail.com	
<p>Mt Enys: At 2194 m, Mt Enys is the highest summit of the Craigieburn Range. To save some of the trudging, we'll try to get access along the Porter Heights Skifield Road to the point where it meets the Porter River. We'll cross the river the ascend the dog-legged spur over Pts 1531 and 1842 m to Pt 2029 m on the spine of the range. From there is about 2.5 km north, over Pt 2046 m and Carn Brae (2090 m) to the summit. We'll return to Carn Brae and then head east along Dead Man Spur, looking for a suitable scree slope down to Enys stream, before contouring back into the Porter River catchment. Here is an opportunity to bag four 2000-m peaks in a single, moderate day.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 12 Feb Map: BW20 BW21 Approx: \$20</p>	

Wednesday 18 February Club Night

Getting Deep and Meaningful in New Zealand: Jonathan Carr writes: At the beginning of November [2014] I was lucky enough to be in one of the first groups to traverse NZ's new deepest cave, some 1200 metres deep with over 37 km of passage and 3 underground camps. We did this trip with Kieran McKay, one of the pioneers of the discovery and exploration of Stormy Pot. I have few photos myself, but will show a short video of some of the exploration and what it involved. The marble mountains of North West Nelson are often visited by the club, but not what lies beneath.... Come and hear about this remarkable achievement by Jonathan and his fellow spelunking adventurers.

Thursday 19 February 6.15 pm start Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off warwick.dowling@gmail.com
Hillsborough Terrace

CTC Hill Climb: 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.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 19 Feb Map: Approx: \$0
---	--

Saturday 21 February 7 am departure Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui warwick.dowling@gmail.com

Mt Hutt: From Double Hill Run Road, on the west bank of the Rakaia River, we'll start up Little River Stream. We'll ascend ~1700 m to Mt Hutt summit (2185 m) before turning north towards Steep Face Hill. The descend is via giant scree run. Total height gain will be ~2000m height gain. Note the early start time.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 19 Feb Map: BX20 Approx: \$25
---	---

Saturday 21 February Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui

Te Oka Reserve /Tumbledown Bay: The trip starts on the corner of Gap and Bossu Roads and follows a track down through Te Oka Reserve to Te Oka. Then, along a ridge line down to Tumbledown Bay - a safe swimming beach with interesting rock formations. The return will follow the same ridge line - part of Te Oka Reserve - back up to Bossu Road.	Grade: Easy/All Closes: 19 Feb Map: BY24 Approx: \$15
---	--

Weekend 21-22 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196 steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz
Ellis Creek, Pinnacle: 7pm Fri evening meeting time to head up to Springs Junction (Nb: leader reserves the right to change his mind and leave early Sat morning) Ellis creek is unfortunately across the Upper Grey River from the road - and there is no bridge - so that should ensure everyone is awake. Untracked travel up Ellis Stream then climb up above the bushline to Pinnacle. The tops here look like a great place, we have two or three options on where to head, we will decide at the time.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 12 Feb Map: BT22 Approx: \$45

Weekend 21-22 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Li Li 039264395 ahhlili01@hotmail.com
Minga, Lake Mavis, Deception,: Lake Mavis is an idyllic spot above Goat pass. The Mingha Deception track is the route of the coast to coast - but don't worry - we will just be walking it. We will take the easy/mod track from Greyneys Shelter up the Mingha, over Dudley Knob and on to Goat Pass Hut. From Goat Pass Hut we will strike east up a spur to gain 500m quickly to our camp site with views of all the peaks around. If you're feeling fit Mt Oates can be climbed from here.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 12 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$40

Sunday 22 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Coastal Exploring - Raupo Bay: Located on Banks Peninsula between Little Akaloa and Okains Bay. Starting from Stoney Beach we tramp along the coastal cliff tops (100m) to Raupo Bay for a cooling sea dip and extended lunch. Continuing up, then along the coastal cliffs via the Panau Pa site on the way to Long Lookout Point. Time allowing we may visit another headland before returning to the cars via pt.241 with its picturesque view of little Akaloa Bay. Time:4hrs Height:241m. There is a shorter option for unofficial participants. contact leader for info.	Grade: Easy Closes: 19 Feb Map: BX25 Approx: \$20

Wednesday 25 February	Club Night
The Folding of the Newsletters: Please join us on this solemn occasion, during which we remember those trees that died and those birds and other vertebrates and invertebrates which lost their homes in the making of our newsletters. BUT in acknowledgement that we made only a minute dent in the monoculture that is a commercial pine forest, and that our enthusiastic tree-hugging and earnest advocacy of renewable resources are sure to create better, more diverse environments for birdies to build their homes, the person who folds the most newsletters on the night will be rewarded with a Prize!	

Thursday 26 February 6.15 pm start Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb: 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.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Feb Map: Approx: \$0
Saturday 28 February Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz
Woolshed Hill: Woolshed Hill (1429 m) stands above the Hawdon, off the Mt White Road. There will be about 820 m of ascent, mostly through beech, following a good track up the crest of a ridge and then about a kilometre of tussocky top to the summit, with options to explore further if you want to. The first 300 m or so is reasonably steep. Great views from the top down into the Waimakariri/Hawdon confluence and the upper Sudden Valley.		Grade: Easy Mod Closes: 26 Feb Map: BV21 Approx: \$25
Weekend 28 February-1 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Natasha Sydorenko 0223140684 n.sydorenko@hotmail.com
Fairie Queen: Friday night walk in to Cannibal Gorge or Ada hut. Saturday head up Camera Gully, set up camp by the lake and scramble a couple of km along the ridge to Fairie Queen, 2236m. Sunday morning up Gloriana, 2218m then either head out down the gully or traverse along the tops to Ada Pass.		Grade: Hard Closes: 19 Feb Map: BT23 Approx: \$40
Weekend 28 February-1 March Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Keith Dekkers 021 1277202 332-1908 keithdek@hotmail.com
French Peak Sleepover: The plan A. is to get a perfect weather forecast and head over to the Lake Moana. Climb Mt French in the afternoon, set up camp and spend an evening cooking dinner as the sun sets west into the Tasman. In case of less than perfect weather on the Coast, plan B. is to get a house at Hamner. Saturday a walk up Mt Isobel and on Sunday Keith has ridden all the tracks in the Hamner forest so he can lead a mountainbike trip to suit all levels. Rumour also has it that an expeditionary party may use the Mt French trip to shuttle some cars while they attempt to traverse from Mt French through to the Taramakau. This should in no way be considered part of the sane and sensible trip Keith is running.		Grade: EasyMod Closes: 19 Feb Map: BU19 Approx: \$40

Sunday 1 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366 bryce.williamson68@gmail.com	
<p>Red Hill via Coleridge Pass: Red Hill (1641 m) is a popular CTC destination, usually approached from the east via the ridge from Mt Lyndon, or from the south-east as a sheltered resort when other trips are destroyed by the nor'wester. This time we'll try an approach from the north. With permission, we will drive up the Porter Heights Skifield Road to the bridge over the Porter River. We'll then follow the river over a gentle ~200 m ascent to Coleridge Pass, at which point we'll turn south and ascend more steeply up another ~500 m to the summit. The descent route will start along the ridge over Pts 1488 and 1494 m. Depending on time and inclination, we can descend back to the cars more directly via the north ridge from Pt 1494 m, or tramp substantially further over Mt Lyndon (1489 m) and Pt 1456 m.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Feb Map: BW20 Approx: \$20	
Thursday 5 March 6.15 pm start Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
<p>CTC Hill Climb: 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>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 5 Mar Map: Approx: \$0	
Saturday 7 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<p>Old Coach Road/Trig M: This trip in the Korowai-Torlesse Tussocklands Park 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: 5 Mar Map: BW21 Approx: \$15	
Weekend 7-8 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui		Leader: Leader required	
<p>Arthurs Pass Base Camp: Visit the club hut at Arthurs pass for a weekend in the mountains. With trips of all grades right outside the front door, from easy wanders to the Punch bowl falls to hard mountain climbing and most grades in between, there is something for everybody. Saturday night can be spent in the hut or going out for a meal in the village.</p>		Grade: Easy/All Closes: 26 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$35 + hut fees	

Weekend 7-8 March Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Bill Johnson bill@billjohnson.co.nz
Mt Speight: A bit of river travel, some bush bashing, tussock basin campsites, a rocky ridge with one or two exposed moves near the start but mostly an easy scramble on to the top, and even some scree to get back down into Greenlaw Ck. Some rock climbing routes on the buttress if you want to carry a bit more gear up the hill.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 26 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$30
Thursday 12 March Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045 warwick.dowling@gmail.com
CTC Hill Climb: 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.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 12 Mar Map: Approx: \$0
Weekend 14-15 March Departure point: Z (Shell) Papanui	Leader: Bruce Cameron 022 188 5905 Tecbruce@gmail.com
Cameron hut: Located behind Mt Somers, the Arrowsmith Range is far larger and steeper than the surrounding foothills and makes a spectacular backdrop to the hut setting. 5 or 6 hours tramping, with a little climbing will get us to the Cameron hut, situated on the remnant terminal moraine of the Cameron Glacier. Great views from the hut on to the Arrowsmith mountains.	Grade: Easy Closes: 5 Mar Map: BW18 BX19 BW19 Approx: \$40 + CMC hut fee
Weekend 14-15 March Departure point: Contact Leader	Leader: Doug Forster 337-5453 doug@forster.net.nz
Walker Pass - Sudden Valley: Tramping up the Hawdon Valley, over Walker Pass into the upper East Otehake, then up to Amber Col where there is a nice camp site. Possible walk up Falling Mountain if there is time in the evening. Next day traverse along the Polar Range then drop into Sudden Valley. Possibly an alternative exit from Sudden Valley depending on the party and the weather. A terrific slice of classic Arthurs Pass tramping.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 5 Mar Map: BV21 Approx: \$35
Thursday 19 March Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb: 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.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 19 Mar Map: Approx: \$0

Thursday 26 March Departure point: Corner of Heybridge Lane off Hillsborough Terrace	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
CTC Hill Climb: 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.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Mar Map: Approx: \$0

Trip Reports

17-18 January 2015

MOUNT SOMERS TRAVERSE

We started from Caltex Russley for this trip. We had a snack break at the Staveley store. By 10:20 we had parked up, booted up and started on the climb towards Staveley Hill one of those hills with many false summits to travel over. We had been expecting a hot day and were all carrying extra water; however we all suffered from the heat to varying degrees. At the lower altitudes there was no wind but once on the climb up the ridge leading up to the Summit the wind built up, it actually cooled us a little. We reached the summit of Mount Somers at 2:50. On the top there was the expected trig station but also a cairn of rocks concreted together with a cabinet for a log book apparently a *Millennium 2000* project.



Pinnacle rocks near hut

This cairn was partly enclosed by a wooden fence, and this had markers pointing out some landmarks. On a fine day we would have been able to see Mt. Cook but cloud in that direction meant we could only just make out d'Archiac. Mount Guy, Lake Heron, Mounts Taylor Winterslow and Hutt completed the western to northern aspect and the Mount Peel Range had been visible from Staveley onwards. We snacked, drank what we could afford and loafed around in the heat until we moved on about 3:20. Our plan was to follow the northwest leading plateau and seek a route down toward the Mount Somers Saddle. Some prospected a possible more direct route down to Pinnacle Hut but decided that descending the bluffs was a bit too adventurous. In any event there was a good cairned route heading in the right general direction so we followed this. It was only a little over an hour before we were all resting at the side of the track to the saddle. There was about 3 km of travel to Pinnacle Hut which we managed without too much difficulty arriving at the Hut about 5:30. We had passed about 8 trampers who had decided to try Woolshed Creek Hut in preference to the crowded hut. There were actually a few bunks available but some of our group carrying tents opted to use them. A group of 5 or 6 climbers were using the hut as a base but some of them opted to camp out as well so more bunks became available later in the evening. Most of us were suffering from dehydration to varying degrees and we all had many drinks before we started to feel more comfortable. I had definitely decided not to attempt Winterslow on the Sunday feeling that one climb in the heat was enough for the weekend and Tim was also considering the easier route out.



Winterslow summit ridge

On Sunday the Winterslow group got away about 8:20. Tim and I were in no great hurry to leave and eventually left at 9:40. It was still hot but we were in the bush most of the way out by the direct route down the Bowyer Stream, which allowed a dip in the river. On the descent from Duke Knob we detoured to the Sharplin Falls. This site was very popular with day trippers, one person even had a camera mounted on a tripod in the pool at the base of the falls. Tim decided he would follow the river down to the car park area so I completed the descent via the track reaching the cars about 1:30. We waited for the rest of the party to arrive; finding what shade we could. Their route was to backtrack from Pinnacle Hut to about where we had met the track to the saddle on Saturday. Then they crossed a tributary of the now neophytic Bowyer Stream and followed up a long gentle ridge which led out to the northwest away from the summit ridge before it linked up with it, then they headed east to reach the summit of Winterslow leaving them with the long descent to Duke Knob and on to the carpark, which they reached about 4:30, though most of them were keen to return to the river for a cooling off dip so it was about 5:00 before we were able to start the drive back. We drove through to Darfield where the fish and chip shop was visited by the 4 younger trip members, Chris McG and I settled for ice creams. We were back in Christchurch by 7:00 pm.

Trip members: Chris McGimpsey (Ldr. and photos), Chris Brown, Adam Burke, Tim Manning, Shaun Wong, David Cook (Scribe).

Classifieds

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

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>	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) by 19 February 2015 – Thanks.