



THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC
PO Box 527, Christchurch. www.ctc.org.nz
Affiliated with the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

Any similarity between the opinions expressed in this newsletter and Club policy is purely coincidental.

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No. 1



*Og, Gog and Magog from Purple Hill trip –
Photo P. Coleman*

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 \$50 member, \$70 couple, \$30 junior or associate, with a \$10 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 CMLC (Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club) building at 110 Waltham Road, Waltham. This new building, beside and on the south side of Waltham School, is about 100m south of the Brougham St/Waltham Rd intersection. Waltham Road is the southern extension of Barbadoes Street. For a map go to www.ctc.org.nz and click the *Social Calendar* link. 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 Kay Taylor 03-3584580 or email kaytaylor30@xtra.co.nz. Please note that formalities start at 7:50 pm sharp, and if there is a guest speaker, he/she will start at 8:10 pm sharp.

Wednesday 26 April		Club Night
Newsletter Folding Night: Newsletter Folding and a general catch-up and chat at the club rooms. The projector is available for use if anyone wishes to show some photos.		
Saturday 29 April Departure point: Z Station Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
Dry Acheron Walkway / Conical Knoll: Starting just off Coleridge Road, the walkway is a poled route/easement across private land, criss crossing the Dry Acheron Stream across high country farm land. Don't be fooled by the word 'dry' - there is water. A short side trip will take us up to Conical Knoll (746m). Return the same way. Height gain 300m, Return trip 14kms	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 27 Apr Map: BX20 Approx: \$20	
Saturday 29 April Early start! Departure point: Z Station Papanui		Leader: Max De Lacey co-leader needed at ChCh departure point 03-688-8342
Mt Winterslow: Co-leader needed to co-ordinate ChCh group. Meeting Max in Sharplin Falls CP. Long day with short daylight. Bring torches and the ability to walk at a good pace for a long time.	Grade: Mod/Hard Closes: 27 Apr Map: BX19 Approx: \$30	
Sunday 30 April Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
13 Mile Bush: Bell tea series #8 This trip is designed to suit trampers who want to move up from easy to mod trips. The Benmore track crosses over farmland before following Thirteen Mile Bush stream up through the forest to the Benmore hut for a hot brew. If the weather and time permits we can proceed further up the track towards Point 1444 above the bushline, before returning back down the hill the way we came up	Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 27 Apr Map: BW21 Approx: \$25	

Sunday 30 April Departure point: Contact leader	Leader: Eric Skea skea.eric@gmail.com
Mt O'Malley: Mt O'Malley is a ~1700 m peak often seen on the way to Mt Aicken, but rarely visited. It is readily accessed via the track from Arthurs Pass Village south of Devils Punchbowl Creek. May need snow skills.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 27 Apr Map: BV20 Approx: \$30

Wednesday 3 May	Club Night
Southern Ocean Sojourns: The Sub-Antarctic and East Antarctica: Tonight club member Chris Todd will talk about his recent trips to the Sub-Antarctic Islands and east Antarctica. Chris was a wild life guide, lecturer and zodiac operator for Heritage Tours on their vessel Akademik Shokalskiy. He will show photos of wildlife and landscapes and comment on aspects of the history, ecology and climate change that he observed. The ship visited The Snares, Auckland Islands, Campbell island and Macquarie Island. The second voyage went to east Antarctica. Come along for a close-up look, without the cold, at our Beautiful Icy Blue Backyard.	

Saturday 6 May Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: Peter Coleman 03 335 0891
Lyttelton Loop: We start on Stan Helm track up to the Gondola, over Mt Pleasant summit, past the gun emplacements, then down a rock ridge into the forest and back into Lyttelton cafe. Great views and the aesthetic appeal of a looping return.	Grade: Easy Closes: 4 May Map: BX24 Approx: \$5

Saturday 6 May Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
Redcliffe Stream / Redcliffe hill: The trip will start on Double Hill Run Road along the south bank of the Rakaia and follow a marked track up the true right of Redcliffe Stream through a scenic reserve. The reserve contains a diverse range of native plants including a dense stand of kowhai, uncommon in inland Canterbury. At the head of the stream, we head north west, over Point 907 and look forward to lunch at an old musterers hut. From there, follow a farm track over Redcliffe Hill (940m), down past a quarry and back to the cars. Height gain 500m, round trip 14kms.	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 4 May Map: BW20 Approx: \$20

Sunday 7 May Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125 judychris@xnet.co.nz
Mt Oxford: Bell Tea series #9 This trip is designed to suit trampers who want to move up from easy to mod trips. Leaving from the car park at the end of Mountain Road we head straight up the the track to the top of Mt Oxford for a hot brew, lunch & grand views over the Oxford Forest area before returning via the Ashley Saddle. A great moderate tramping circuit with lots of nice north facing slopes to practise "tussock lizzard" skills if the weather permits.	Grade: Moderate - easy pace Closes: 4 May Map: BW22 Approx: \$25

Wednesday 10 May		Club Night
<p>Federated Mountain Clubs (FMC) - Current Projects & Issues: "Tonight Tania Seward from the FMC Exec is talking to us about some exciting projects and issues that FMC is currently involved with.Come along and meet your local FMC rep and keep informed on conservation and access issues".</p>		
Saturday 13 May		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125
Departure point: Caltex Russley		judychris@xnet.co.nz
<p>Mt Karen: Bell Tea series #10 The track climbs up through the bush above the Devils Punchbowl at Arthur's Pass before opening out on to a lovely smoko rock with good view down into the Devils Punchbowl and up towards Mt Karen. The track continues up through the tussock with some interesting rocky knobs to negotiate along the way before reaching Mt Karen (Point 1844). From here the views of surrounding mountains while having a well deserved cup of tea are well worth the morning's effort. Good views of Sunday's Avalanche Peak - Bealey Traverse route will motivate those planning on making a weekend of it, or maybe even inspire a Sunday morning sleep in, followed by a lazy coffee at the Wobbly Kea. A pot luck tea & mug South African tramping juice will ensure a good nights sleep at the club hut on Saturday night for the trampers staying on for Sunday's trip</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 11 May Map: BV20 Approx: \$25 + Hut Fees</p>	
Saturday 13 May		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Departure point: Z Station Papanui		newmike@slingshot.co.nz
<p>Peak Hill: 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 and poled route up to a small saddle from where you can see into both the Rakaia and out over beautiful Lake Coleridge. From the saddle, we continue up through the tussocks to the broad summit at 1240m to give about 600m height gain altogether. Return the same way. A great trip at any time of the year.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 11 May Map: BW20 Approx: \$25</p>	
Weekend 13-14 May		Leader: Andrew Tromans 337-3925
Departure point: Contact leader		atromans@gmail.com
<p>Rochfort Basin: A hidden valley on the west coast near lake Haupiri. We start up Crane creek along an old overgrown forestry service track into the basin. If the weather is fine we will camp on the tops or we will continue over Rochfort (1049m), down Logjam creek to Waikiti Hut. On the last day we walk down the marked track along the Waikiti river to the road. Not too much height gain through some great west coast bush. Probably leave Friday night to stay at the club hut in AP.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closes: 4 May Map: BV20 Approx: Approx \$40 + hut fee</p>	

Sunday 14 May
Departure point: Contact leader

Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 3589125
judychris@xnet.co.nz

Avalanche - 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. Snow skills may be needed, depending on weather. There may be an early start or you could stay in the club hut the night before - contact the leader.

Grade: Moderate
Closes: 11 May
Map: BV20
Approx: \$35 + hut fees

Wednesday 17 May

Club Night

Risk Management and Emergency Planning in the Backcountry: Tonight we have a presentation from Outdoor Education NZ (OENZ), talking on Risk Management and Emergency Planning. Every year accidents happen which could've been avoided through proper planning and risk mitigation. One of the most useful parts of the former Mountain Safety Outdoor leader course was 2 days doing risk management. It's easy to think yeah nah I know all that stuff, but a quick look at accident reports often shows up basic errors. "OENZ provides training courses in Bush, Rock, Alpine, Avalanche and River Crossing. They employ specialized instructors with strong practical experience & qualifications to run their training courses. Tonight they are running a "hands on" evening on managing risk, keeping ourselves safe, and what to do in an emergency when in the wilderness. Come along for an enjoyable and informative training evening.

Wednesday 24 May

Club Night

Tramping and Climbing in South Westland with Nina Dickerhof: Tonight Nina Dickerhof, from the NZAC, will be talking about some of her multi-day tramping and climbing trips in South Westland. Nina is well known for her adventurous, off-track trips into the spectacular mountains and valleys of the Southern Alps, particularly the Olivine and Hooker wilderness areas." This will be a great talk, as those of us who have attended Nina's talks at the NZAC know, so come along and get some inspiration to tramp and explore these rugged but beautiful alpine areas.

Saturday 27 May
Departure point: Z Station Papanui

Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
newmike@slingshot.co.nz

Anti-Crow Hut: Starting at the Bealey Bridge, we follow the true right of the Waimakariri where there is a clear track. Further up, cross Turkey Flat where Jordan Stream comes in from the Black Range on the left. We will be at Anti-Crow Hut, opposite Mt Bealey for lunch and return the same way. Mostly straight forward with plenty of flat tramping and about 8kms each way.

Grade: Easy
Closes: 25 May
Map: BV20
Approx: \$25

Sunday 28 May Leader: Warwick Dowling 021 35 4545
warwick.dowling@gmail.com
 Departure point: Z Station Papanui

Hamilton Peak - Mt Wall traverse: We will try to do a loop from the Broken River Ski Club road near the base of Camp Saddle. Scree run down Mt Wall.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 25 May Map: BW20 Approx: \$25
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Wednesday 31 May Club Night

Newsletter Folding Evening: Newsletter Folding and a general catch-up and chat at the club rooms. The projector is available for use if anyone wishes to show some photos.

Saturday 3 June Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
newmike@slingshot.co.nz
 Departure point: Z Station Papanui

Mt Vulcan: A lovely 4 to 5 hour walk with around 200m height gain. Mt Vulcan (412m), overlooks the sea in the coastal hills just north of Waipara and there are good views of the coast and Motunau Beach. Plenty of farm tracks to follow and the return trip will visit nearby Mt Venus. Total round trip around 10kms.	Grade: Easy Closes: 1 Jun Map: BV25 Approx: \$25
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Long Weekend 3-5 June Leader: Andrew Tromans 337-3925
atromans@gmail.com
 Departure point: Contact Leader

Royal Hut: An old high country musterers hut at the southern end of the Two Thumb range. We start at Mt Gerald station and climb up a long ridge to Stag pass near Mt Beuzenberg (2070m) before descending the track to the hut. We should get some stunning views over Lake Tekapo, the main divide and the McKenzie basin. Snow skills may be required	Grade: Moderate - possible snow skills Closes: 25 May Map: BY17 Approx: Approx \$40 + hut fee
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Wednesday 7 June Club Night

Peak to Plateau: Yakking Around in Mongolia and central Asia: "In 2016 Stephan Warnaar traveled, hiked and explored the vast Mongolian Steppes and high mountains of central Asia. While there he saw the potential in using yak wool for high performance outdoor clothing. Stephan was inspired to found his company Peak to Plateau, designing and manufacturing yak wool garments. Tonight Stephan will take us on his journey through the spectacular Mongolian and central Asian mountains, and subsequently into the business world. He'll be showing photo's of the landscapes and people which have inspired him, and talking about his start-up in the highly competitive world of outdoor gear".

Wednesday 21 June	Club Night
<p>Buy, Sell and Exchange Evening: It's time to dust off all that un-used gear that's been replaced with newer, shinier (and probably lighter and dearer) versions, and turn it into good hard cash whilst equipping your fellow trampers. Yes it's the Club's Buy, Sell and Exchange Night, and always a lot of fun. Come along and practice your auction skills! Boots, ski's, jackets, packs, ropes, crampons, tents,...these were some of the items on sale last year. Good quality items only please. Also, please bring cash as there is no Eftpos available. Items may be donated to the club to sell for the benefit of the club coffers. (Last year the club raised \$100 from donations which was greatly appreciated). There were some great bargains gained last sale, so don't miss out- see you there!</p>	

Saturday 1 July	Club Night
<p>Mid Winter Breakfast: Hi Everyone, pencil this date into your calendars. It's time for a hearty breakfast together followed by the awarding of the Loo-Loo Trophy!. An easy (enough) "Buffet-Buster" walk to follow. Venue and walk details will be notified closer to the date.</p>	

Saturday 8 July	Club Night
<p>Mid-Winter Dinner at Arthur's Pass Club Hut: Hi Everyone, To compliment the Mid-Winter Breakfast, we are having a pot-luck dinner at the club hut in Arthur's Pass. This is scheduled for the weekend of July 8-9th. This allows members to have 2 days exertions and a different sort of knee's up in between! I will co-ordinate the meal side of the weekend, but a trip leader is required. Thanks Kay</p>	

Trip Reports

18 March 2017

Mt Maukuratawhai Trip Report

This tramp was particularly significant for me because I was able to complete my 10 peak tramping challenge that I set for myself over the summer. I will explain the purpose of this challenge later in the report. To begin I thought I'd focus on some of the highlights from Elizabeth's Mt Maukuratawhai tramp.

There are two highlights that stand out to me from this trip. The first one was about seeing wild life in New Zealand. On other tramps I've seen Keas, which was a treat, they're such curious creatures. This time, as I was ascending the last hill before we go to the home straight, Chris yelled from the top "LOOK!" I turned around, just in time to see... a piglet. And then the sow also appeared from behind a big pine tree, when it was intruded upon by Allan who about to cut down her hiding place. Boy, they can run fast! Poor things must have been scared out of their wits by these big lolloping, two legged, nosey and colourful creatures. Perhaps I should just refer to myself here. I was more of a huffing, puffing, shivering, stumbling creature more than I was lolloping.

That brings me to my second highlight. I found this to be quite a hard tramp, but everyone was amazing! I was very slow, and yet I only felt encouraged and cared about by the other people on the tramp. It was lovely in fact. I may have been on the edges of having hyperthermia, as we had been tramping in the wet and cold for hours. I thought I had OK gear, but my leggings got tired and cold. Elizabeth made me put on extra trousers and I

revived. Thanks for being tough with me Elizabeth, I needed that!

For all you trampers out there I need to do my duty and describe the actual trip as best I can. Disclaimer: I haven't been tramping for long so I may not have the terminology quite right.

The trip started in the rain and clouds and basically ended in the same fashion. So I cannot describe the views apart from that there were various degrees of foggy, white, wetness that got more cold and wet towards the peak. The wind was blowing from North to South (I think) so we had our breaks of the south facing lees of the slopes. Oh yes, we also had a rather deep river crossing at the beginning. It came up to my waist. I had Bryce on one side and Andre on the other so I was perfectly safe. I expected it to be cold, but it wasn't super freezing or anything, so that was nice. We crossed the same river on the way back, but it not so deep (for some of us) because we found a nice shallow place to cross further downstream. The land did vary somewhat on the trip. It was steep and then more steep, then crazy steep when we surged up the last 200m. After that it was rocky and steep, then tussocky and then quite a lot of following the ridge down. I liked that part.



Summit of Mt Maukuratawhai

There is one particular part of the trip which made an impression on me, other than being cold and wet. A bunch of us took a detour down a rocky slope because traversing the rocky outcrop looked rather difficult. This was after the peak but before we had to ascent the last 200m to get to the ridge we needed to get down. What was kinda fun about this was not the fact that we actually got a little lost (part of the fun and games while tramping with the CTC, it had to happen within my 10 trips at some point), but that a few of us got out our whistles and used them to communicate. Another first for me. It was interesting to find out that 1 whistle meant 'come to me', and 2 meant 'I'm staying where I am', 3 means emergency. I hope that's correct. Through our whistling communication (I'll just add here that my whistle was by far the best, thanks Mum, a gift for my past teaching career) we established that we needed to scramble up the bluff and join Bryce and Richard who had stayed up and scouted the way.

The next part nearly killed any positive composure that I had left. I thought that after ascending the peak, and getting back to where we ought to be, that we were on the homeward straight. Nope. We went up, up and more ups! In my mind, we had already made the peak so I was not really ready for this. Someone mentioned that it was a good thing that

it was rainy and cloudy, so you couldn't see how far you had to go up. Once I caught up with everyone, it seemed to me that they thought I would stop and rest. Heck no! I was well over this tramp by this time, and just wanted to get back to the dry and warm. So, I soldiered on and surprised a few, I think, with my determination. Not long after this I had to basically be held down to put on more clothes. Apparently I looked terrible and had started to worry people. At this point, I was past caring. Not too many hours after this I was wearing warm dry cloths, eating hot food and drinking a beer at the pub. Everything was well and good with the world again.

An observation here is that when tramping, things get right back to basics. What becomes important is very simple; like are you walking up or down? When I'm struggling, my goals shrink. In my mind I will go from setting a goal to get to the next hilltop and not thinking beyond that, to whittling right down to a goal of taking 10 steps before I stop. Something about this basic thought battle and the basic elemental experience, hot/cold, wet/dry, up/down, sheltered/windy is quite appealing when our current world can be so complicated and confusing. How many different forms of communication are out there? One day while teaching I got my students to make a list and they came up with over 20, easily. Then there are these beautiful moments when the clouds part and the landscape reveals itself. Or when while you're looking down, trudging along, and you notice a tiny little flower you've never seen before. Well worth the effort of getting out amongst the hills and mountains.

Now I will explain the 10 peak challenge that I set myself to complete this summer for suicide prevention and mental health awareness. Hold onto your seats or get yourself a cup of tea, I'm going to take you on a journey that crosses continents and has a dramatic life and death focus.

When I was working in Kathmandu, Nepal as a voluntary teacher (at an English speaking school) it made me very sad that so many of my fellow Kiwis had stories about people they knew back home that had committed suicide. This topic came up fairly often because when you are surrounded by smelly, dirty, noisy poverty, you compare it to your home knowledge.

The people in this smelly, dirty, noisy poverty stricken city of Kathmandu were sooooo friendly and helpful! They seemed surprisingly happy. And the contrast with our gloomy, depressive, point of view back home was huge. I thought to myself that I've got to do something about this, no idea what or how, as seemed like a major mountain of a goal.

Recently I came up with this 10 peak project. I was inspired by the facebook fad of '22 push ups a day for 22 days' to support suicide prevention in memory of a US Marine who committed suicide. Not sure how it works, I guess it brings awareness. So seeing as my upper body strength is rather pathetic, I thought of doing something I could actually achieve. The requirements for this challenge included an activity that required a high level of effort, a number, and a timeframe. I choose, tramping, 10 peaks and over the summer. I have to admit to using some creative license and my summer went from October 2016, till March 2017. Here is a list of my 10 peaks:

#1 Stoney Bay Peak – October 2016

#2 Peak 1548m renamed Sandal Peak – (Hamilton Hut and Cass River) 22/10/16 to 24/10/16

#3 Woolshed Hill – 19/11/16

#4a Mt Kaukau – 22/11/16 (Wellington a suburban mountain that only took a couple of hours)

#4b Hemi Matanga – 23/11/16 (Behind Waikanae, my hometown, also only a couple of hours)

#5 Mt Karen (I think) – 10/12/16 (we only made it up half way as the weather was super bad)

#6 Avalanche Peak – 11/12/16

#7 My first scree run! (Can't remember real name, near Mt Clara)

#8 Zampa Tops – 11/2/17, 12/2/17 (makes up for some of the half tramps I counted)

#9 Waiheke Island – 23/2/17 (a bit of creative licence used here to count this as a peak, but I did travel far to get there, and spent several hours adventuring around the coast with not a soul in sight)

#10 Mt Maukuratawhai – 18/3/17 THIS WAS AN EPIC EFFORT OF A TRAMP!!!

To finish this report, I would like to share what I learnt from this experience. In the past I have been a fairly highly strung and stressful person. I feel that this 10 peak challenge has really taught me how to put things in perspective. The mountains are constantly changing, sometimes slowly and sometimes very quickly. Life is like that too. Change is part of life and I've learnt more and more to take things one day at a time and not worry about tomorrow.

26 March 2017

Purple Hill and the Great Mt St Bernard Traverse



Summit of Purple Hill –P. Coleman

After climbing Mt White, from the Mt White shearing quarters, we needed something purple. Someone mentioned Purple Hill. It is neither purple nor a hill, but there is a palm-sized delicate purple shrub along the ridge... Unfortunately, it was gloomy Sunday, but why cancel the trip. There's still a chance of blue sky in the rain shadow-lands of the Craigieburn basin.

We started in sunny/cloudy conditions from the Lake Pearson freedom camping area and around the northern edge of the lake, past the echelon of lake reeds framing the lake. We picked a line avoiding most of the matagouri and onto the steep ridge and pumped up. A dead woolly sheep was spied, on its side looking, at a casual glance, like *Raoulia eximia* (vegetable sheep).

Ivo nailed it, when he estimated 3 hours to the top. Sitting on the summit Cairn, Ivo brought out all-natural dinosaurs - apparently better than jet planes. One of mine was fluorescent yellow one (turmeric?).

Mist swirled but with an intermittent break, we spied the traverse to Mt St Bernard (1518m). We went down a slope which might have ended in bluffs, but instead was just a steep slope and soft under-foot. We crossed unusual parallel-like rock furrows, like someone would form with a giant rake and then onto the rounded plateau of Mt St Bernard (where's the peak?). Laurent spotted a mini "valley of bones" for our local urban archaeologist, Shana to comment on. Goats or sheep - who can tell?

The original plan was to descend directly on to Lake Hawdon with the green, alien looking forms in the water. This was complicated. To the right was a gnarly steep rock ridge. So down we shuffled on a left-leaning route, down snippets of scree slides and rocks a-tumbling down. Opposite, the monolithic, silent Magog sat quietly, while we took a left diagonal down scree-scrub. Weaving through Matagouri trying to keep on the yellow tussock carpet and then down to forest of giant tussocks at the bottom.

The author took great delight in cooling off by taking a solitary dip in a very shallow rocky pool. We trudged, in a very mild 19 degrees, through the never-ending swamp of Sloven Stream. Finally, onto the solid terra firma of rolling tussock, then to road for a short breather. A slog over the small pass back to Lake Pearson to complete the anticlockwise loop (seen from the camping ground). We decided on the Sheffield Pub with the big communal plate of chips and the warm beer glowing ambience.



Lake Hawdon – P. Coleman

Participants: Laurent De Maudave Bestel, Stephen, Rachelle Binny, Ivo Rongen, Shana Dooley, Peter Coleman (leader and scribe)

More about the CTC

Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Chris McGimpsey	03 3589125	<i>Overnight Trip Organiser:</i>	Andrew Tromans	337-3925
<i>Vice President:</i>	Shaun Wong	021 234 6847	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Kay Taylor	03358-4580
<i>Secretary:</i>	David Selway	03 326 3344	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Bernhard Parawa	337 3125
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Natasha Sydorenko	0223140684	<i>Editor:</i>	Eric Skea	
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196
<i>New Members Rep:</i>	Chris McGimpsey	03 3589125	<i>IT Convenor:</i>	Nick Edwards	
<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Elizabeth Eadon	03 3764453	<i>Access Officer:</i>	Ian Dunn	0212141907

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 **and pay** before leaving town; the club bank account number is 38-9017-0279838-00 (Kiwibank/Christchurch Tramping Club). Include your name and the words "hut fees" in the particulars/code/reference fields. Phone Steve Bruerton 322-6196 for booking and key code; or if he's away, Steve Bruerton 322 6196; or if they're both away, Rex Vink 3525329. 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, Steve Bruerton.

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 25 May 2017 – Thanks.