



# ***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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No. 9



*On Alan Ross' Kokatahi/Pinnacle Biv trip.  
Photo: Dayle Drummond*

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.

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## **Calendar of trips and Social Events**

**Trips:** Unless otherwise stated, club trips depart either from 'Z' Carlton Corner Service Station (formerly Shell) at 1 Papanui Road (next to Liquor Land and opposite Derby Street) or from Caltex Russley on the corner of Russley Road and Yaldhurst Rd. If the departure point is not specified in the trip schedule, you may assume it's 'Z' Carlton. Day trips usually depart at 8am on Saturday or Sunday. Weekend trips may leave on either Friday evening or Saturday morning.

New or prospective members intending to go on any trip must sign up at club night or contact the trip leader in advance.

**Social:** We meet on 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. 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](mailto: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 pm sharp.

**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, Chris McGimpsey 027 6573070; 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 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 item per weekend
Harnesses, snow shovel	\$4 per weekend
Large/small weekend packs	\$2 per weekend
Helmets	Free
Personal locator beacons	Free

Wednesday 30 January	Club Night
<b>Newsletter Folding Evening:</b> We'll process the newsletter at the BBQ, which is rescheduled for tonight.	

Saturday 2 February Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: John Kerkhofs 0212429253 john.kerkhofs@gmail.com
<b>Woolshed Creek Hut:</b> A nice walk through beautiful countryside, we start off with a good climb up the Rhyolite ridge before joining up to the Mt Somers track which takes us to the Woolshed Creek hut. Relax at the hut for a while or run around and explore the area a bit. We will return via the Miners track, which is a much gentler walk. Cumulative elevation gain is about 1062 metres, 13 km / 6.75 hrs.	Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 31 Jan Map: BX19 Approx: \$25

Weekend 2-3 February Departure point: Caltex Russley	Leader: David Sutton 0211808081 Davidlsutton@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Mt Franklin:</b> Mt Franklin is described as 'by far the best climb east of Arthurs Pass'. Walk in on Saturday via the Mingha to camp in Goodluck Creek. On Sunday climb to the coll above Lake Anna before climbing the steep east ridge to the summit. Return the same way. Bring a helmet.	Grade: Hard Closed: 24 Jan Map: BV20 Approx: \$25

Sunday 3 February Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: Bryce Williamson 021-0232-2310 bryce.williamson68@gmail.com
<b>Jordan Saddle via Bealey and Hut Spurs:</b> Start on the conventional route to Bealey Spur Hut, then climb on and up to Pt 1875m. Descend to Jordan Saddle then down Jordan Stream to Turkey Flat. If the water level is low enough, cross the Waimak to a car conveniently stowed at Klondyke corner, otherwise follow the flood route to the southern end of the Waimakariri road bridge. About 20km and 1200m height gain.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 31 Jan Map: BV20 Approx: \$25

Wednesday 6 February Departure point: Caltex Russley	Leader: Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 03 358 9125 tortistours@gmail.com
<b>Bell Tea series #20 Mt Somers:</b> Bell Tea series #20 Mt Somers. This will be a series of 4 day and 2 overnight trips which will get progressively harder as the year proceeds and they will finish with a weekend at the club hut climbing Mt Karen & Goat Hill. They can be done as a complete series of trips, or as single trips and the series is designed to suit trampers who want to move up from easy to mod trips. All of the trips will be run at an easy pace with plenty of scenery stops and a chance to boil the billy for an old fashion tramping brew plus long lunches in the sun. Mod at easy pace (max 10 people) Leaving from the Sharplin Falls car park we head straight up the the track over Hookey Knob along the South Face route to the top of Mt Somers for a brew, lunch & grand views before returning back the way we came. NB - 8am start at the Caltex Russley	Grade: Moderate - easy pace Closes: 31 Jan Map: BX20 Approx: \$25

Wednesday 6 February	Club Night
<b>Waitangi Day - Public Holiday - No Meeting Tonight:</b> As today is a public holiday we won't be having a meeting tonight.	

Saturday 9 February Departure point: Z Station Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
<b>Little Mt Ida:</b> This is a little gem of a trip. From Harper Road, follow a road to Lake Ida. We walk along the length of the lake, on to a smaller un-named lake. A short steep climb takes us up to a ridge which is followed to the top of Little Mt Ida (1050m). Great views of the bigger version, Mt Ida, and Mt Olympus. Return trip will descend to the road and then back to the cars. Height gain around 500m.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 7 Feb Map: BW20 Approx: \$25

Weekend 9-10 February Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 358 9125  
 Departure point: Caltex Russley tortistours@gmail.com

<p><b>Crooked Spur Hut:</b> A good chance to put your river crossing skills into practise with 16 – 21 crossings of Bush Stream on the 5 hour walk into the historical Crooked Spur hut on Saturday. Because this trip will be running on a section of the Te Araroa trail you will have the bonus of a night's sleep in a tent. We will overnight at the old horse paddock next to the historical hut before returning back to the cars the same way, with another 16- 21 river crossings on the Sunday. At this time of the year the water is remarkably warm for a NZ river, and because the depth varies from ankle to thigh deep there will be multiple opportunities to try out both solo and group river crossing techniques.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate          Closes: 31 Jan          Map: BX18          Approx: \$50</p>
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Weekend 9-10 February Leader: John Kerkhofs  
 Departure point: Z Station Papanui john.kerkhofs@gmail.com

<p><b>Jollie Brook Hut:</b> An easy introduction to overnight tenting. We will start at the Sisters Stream car park and follow the track clockwise over quite flat terrain along the Hurunui River to Gabriel Hut. Drop the packs there and take a short stroll to Lake Sumner and the outlet into the Hurunui River. Retrieve the packs and continue over the Gabriel Saddle to Jollie Brook Hut where we will set up camp for the night. The following morning we will walk out via Jollie Brook back to the cars. Things to note: This is a tenting trip – don't expect a bunk in the hut as it is likely to be busy/full. You WILL get wet feet, especially on the way out. Water is from the stream, it's up to you if you want to treat it, but I'll drink it straight. Cumulative elevation gain over two days is about 1200 metres, day 1 is 17 km / 6 hrs, day 2 is 15 km / 5.5 hrs.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod          Closes: 31 Jan          Map: BU23          Approx: \$25</p>
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Wednesday 13 February Club Night

**Free evening for member's trips:** Details of tonight's program closer to the time. Please let me know if you wish to talk about your holiday tramps, including Waitangi Day trips.

Saturday 16 February Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360  
 Departure point: Z Station Papanui newmike@slingshot.co.nz

<p><b>Panama Rock/Josef Langer Reserve:</b> At 610m, Panama Rock ( also known as Kellers Peak ) is a lava dome and part of the 500ha Josef Langer Reserve, overlooking LeBons Bay on the North East of Banks Peninsula. Starting on Panama Rd, the South Entrance Track takes us through to the Langer Lodge, from where we follow the Dyke Track up through bush to Lavericks Ridge Rd. After a short road walk, join the Panama Peak Track to the top and enjoy expansive views over LeBons Bay and as far as the Kaikouras. We then follow Keller Track through regenerating bush and South Entrance Track back to the cars. Height gain approx. 400m.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod          Closes: 14 Feb          Map: BX25          Approx: \$25</p>
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Weekend 16-17 February Leader: David Sutton 0211808081  
 Departure point: Contact Leader Davidlsutton@yahoo.co.uk

**Routeburn in a day:** The Routeburn is 33km long with less than 1000m of height gain. That's a moderate! No need to be super fit: anyone who is comfortable on moderate trips can manage that in a day. The plan is to have two cars; one group walking east to west and the other west to east. One car will drive to the Glenorchy end (6.5 hrs drive from Christchurch) and camp at Sylvan Campsite and the other to the Te Anau side (8.5 hrs from Christchurch) and camp at Lake Gunn Campsite. It is slightly easier to walk east to west as there is 300m less height gain. We could drive down on Friday night (ideally leave work a little early to get a start), walk Saturday and have Sunday to sleep in and recover before a leisurely drive back up to Christchurch. I'm thinking we will make sure we get good weather before setting off (partly so we get good views but also partly so we can walk with a light pack). Also, the track is pretty good and training shoes will be fine so speed up the walk.

Grade: Moderate+  
 Closes: 7 Feb  
 Map:  
 Approx:

Sunday 17 February Leader: Symon Holmes  
 Departure point: Caltex Russley symon\_gnome@yahoo.co.nz

**Mt Guy:** From Lake Clearwater we climb up approx 650m to the summit of Mt Guy with hopefully good views of Lake Clearwater and the Southern Alps.

Grade: Easy/Mod  
 Closes: 14 Feb  
 Map: BX19  
 Approx: \$30

Wednesday 20 February Club Night

**Lake Nerine, Mt Aspiring National Park:** Previously 3 CTC trips to Lake Nerine had been cancelled due to bad weather. This time, Mother Good Weather beamed down on the team of Barry, John, Lorraine, Liz, Monika, Emma and Josh and they enjoyed fab weather and made it to Lake Nerine. The team have some great photos of their trip to share with us tonight.

Weekend 23-24 February Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 358 9125  
 Departure point: Caltex Russley tortistours@gmail.com

**Bell Tea series #21 Carroll Hut (max 10 people):** Saturday will be a stiff walk up the hill to the Kelly Range & claim a bunk in the Carroll Hut before checking out the sunset from Kellys Hill. Sunday morning will give people a chance to check out the tops before returning to the hut, packing up and walking back out. The climb up is around 800 metres of height gain and 2 - 3 hours through forest & sub alpine scrub leading onto the tussock grasslands surrounding the hut. For more info contact Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com.

Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace  
 Closes: 14 Feb  
 Map:  
 Approx: \$30 + hut fees

Weekend 23-24 February Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Kayleigh Gilkes
<b>Griffin Creek Hut:</b> Maximum 10 people. Stay at club hut on Friday night. Car shuffle between Harrington Creek and the Taipo Road bridge. Up Harrington Creek to the tops, (climb Wilson's Knob if people are keen) drop down to Griffin Creek Hut for the night (4 bunks so bring a tent). Following day out via Rocky Creek. Expect a long hard day on the Sunday. If the weather is not good this trip will be postponed.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 14 Feb Map: BU19 BV19 BV20 Approx: \$40 + hut fee	
Weekend 23-24 February Departure point: Z Station Papanui		Leader: Barry Watson 021668895 bazzaman7@gmail.com
<b>Lake Daniell - Family and Friends Welcome :</b> A classic among many Cantabrians is the leisurely and highly-scenic Lake Daniell Track which is west of Lewis Pass. The 3hr walk-in and gently gradient makes it ideal to invite family members and friends who would like to start tramping. Once at the hut, you can take a walk around the waters edge, go for a swim in the tranquil lake or relax and socialise with others - the choice is yours. Although you will probably get a bunk in the hut, you may choose to take a tent and set it up by the lake. Since it's not a hard walk in, you may also like to take in some slightly heavier yummy gourmet food to munch on and enjoy.	Grade: Easy Closes: 14 Feb Map: BT23 Approx: \$35 + hut fees	
Sunday 24 February Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: David Sutton 0211808081 Davidlsutton@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Mt Stuart:</b> Park near the foot of the cableway at the top of Arthurs Pass. Climb the ridge to Phipps to around 1400m then side in to Pegleg Creek Basin and up on to the shoulder to the east of the summit of Mt Stuart. Climb a steep shute to the summit. Descend the ridge to SH73 via the ridge heading SW and Hills Peak. Great tramp with a bit of everything; bush bash, rough ground, ridge and wonderful views down on to the viaduct from the cliffs that will probably end up down there when the fault next goes!	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 21 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$20	
Sunday 24 February Departure point: Z Station Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
<b>Pudding Hill Stream:</b> This trip gives a varied loop in the Mt Hutt Forest Conservation Area. Starting at the beautiful AwaAwa Rata Reserve, we walk up Scotts Saddle Track to the Skifield road. This is a climb of around 600m over 5kms through mixed forest and then on to tussock tops with great views of the plains. From the road we head west down through the forest to reach Pudding Hill Stream. This is followed downstream (untracked) for approx. 6kms to where a short track leads back to the reserve. Expect wet feet on the homeward part of this round trip of approx. 12kms.	Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 21 Feb Map: BX20 Approx: \$20	

**Newsletter Folding Evening and Lightning Talk: Hike and Fly: Gone in 15 minutes!**

**TBC:** Come along and pick up your newsletter and save the club postage, have a cuppa and listen to tonight's short talk by Lorraine Johns. "Ever found yourself standing somewhere above the bush line, just a few too many hours from your car, feeling very weary and just a little sorry for yourself? Well, be prepared to be sold on a most miraculous product that solve all your descent woes. Gerhardt Spur Bivouac? 15 minutes to get down from the bivvy to the car. Mount Fyffe? 15 minutes is the magical number once again. Buckland Peaks Hut? Naturally, 15 minutes. Mount Te Kinga? Dispatched in 15. The secret? Flying! But only using what you can carry up. Join Lorraine Johns as she talks about some hike and flying trips she has undertaken since learning to para-glide earlier this year". General catch-up with refreshments as per usual.

Saturday 2 March

Leader: Lorraine Johns

Departure point: Caltex Russley

**Philistine-Rolleston Traverse:** We will be choosing the best day out of Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 March to complete the Philistine-Rolleston Traverse. We will stay at the CTC Hut in Arthurs Pass the night before the climb, so we can have an early start. We will start at the Philistine end and finish at Rolleston, as the route is easiest in this direction. You need to have undertaken a basic snowcraft course or have equivalent experience, as the use of an ice axe and crampons may be required. A short section on the descent from high peak is often abseiled, so it is best if you know how to abseil. If you don't know how to abseil but would like to come, please talk to the trip leader well in advance. This is a grade 2 mountaineering route, but a very achievable one. The route can be comfortably undertaken without rock shoes or a rope, but we will be taking a rope and participants may like to carry rock shoes, just in case. If this is a trip you would like to join, but you're not sure if you yet have the confidence, please do get in touch with the trip leader so she can talk to you about the route. The trip leader would like to encourage all who are interested in this route to consider coming. A great way to increase your confidence is to do some rock climbing (gym, crag, or mountain scrambles) in advance. Some photos of the route can be viewed here: <https://wearyfeet.smugmug.com/The-Great-Outdoors/Arthurs-Pass-National-Park/Philistine-Rolleston-Traverse> (Just remember, photos often make it look harder than it was at the time!). There will be a cap on numbers - this will be determined by the level of experience in the team. If the weather is not good enough to run the trip we will reschedule it to the following weekend (9-10 March).

Grade: Hard  
 Closes: 28 Feb  
 Map: BV20  
 Approx: \$35 + hut fees

<p>Sunday 3 March Departure point: Z Station Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Symon Holmes symon_gnome@yahoo.co.nz</p>
<p><b>Lewis Tops:</b> From the Lewis Pass carpark we climb up through the beech forest up to the top. We'll continue along to the tarns and possibly further depending on how keen people are. Note:- Meet at 7.30am.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 28 Feb Map: BT23 Approx: \$40</p>
<p>Wednesday 6 March <span style="float: right;">Club Night</span></p>	
<p><b>Summit Road Society</b> : Tonight SRS secretary Marie Gray is talking on recent happenings in the Society. She'll cover land purchases on the Port Hills, and the success of their Port Hills predator trapping programme.</p>	
<p>Saturday 9 March Departure point: Z Station Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360 newmike@slingshot.co.nz</p>
<p><b>Redcliffe Stream:</b> 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 follow a farm track around the base of the Mt Hutt Range and back out to the road. Round trip approx. 16kms, cumulative height gain, 500m. The trip will require a car shuffle.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 7 Mar Map: BW20 Approx: \$20</p>
<p>Weekend 9-10 March Departure point: Caltex Russley</p>	<p>Leader: Chris McGimpsey 03 358 9125 tortistours@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Bell Tea Series #22 Arthurs Pass (max 15 people):</b> A great chance to climb 2 x trampers peaks in one weekend at an easy pace, with a pot luck tea &amp; sleep over at the club hut on the Sat night. Depending on the weather we will tackle both Mt Karen &amp; Mt Barron over the weekend. This will give everyone excellent alpine views from both sides of Arthurs Pass, plus a chance to scout out the route to Mt O'Malley which will be visited later in the year. More importantly it will give the trip leader another chance to stand on top of Mt Barron after two previous failed attempts. As with the earlier Bell Tea trips both climbs will be run at an easy pace with a cup of tea at the top to celebrate. If people are short of time they can join us for a day trip on either the Sat or Sunday. Leader Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace Closes: 28 Feb Map: BV20 Approx: \$30 + \$15 Hut Fees</p>

Weekend 9-10 March		Leader: Klem Stampfli
Departure point: Z Station Papanui		
<p><b>Overnight MTB Trip St James Station 76km:</b> The plan is to bike from Maling Pass to Anne hut (new 20 bunk hut) where we are staying the night. There is the option for a side trip to Lake Guyon. The next day we will bike down the Waiau River along Henry track up Saddle Spur with some great views from there. Then follow the McArthur track and crossing the picturesque McArthurs hanging bridge. Don't forget to bring your togs as there are options for a swim and hot pool. There will be some climbing towards Edwards Valley and out towards St James Homestead. Car shuffle between the homestead and Mailing Pass. Good fitness and intermediate MTB skills level. <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/stjamescycletrail">https://www.doc.govt.nz/stjamescycletrail</a>. Klem Stampfli 027 6671688 <a href="mailto:klem.stampfli@gmail.com">klem.stampfli@gmail.com</a>. Maximum of 10 people.</p>	Grade: Mountain Bike Moderate	Closes: 28 Feb
	Map: BT24	Approx: \$35 + hut fees
Saturday 16 March		Leader: Alan Ross 021 962884 384-6425
Departure point: Caltex Russley <a href="mailto:alan_sue@xtra.co.nz">alan_sue@xtra.co.nz</a>		
<p><b>Camp Saddle Circuit:</b> This is one of my favourite day trips because of the variety of terrain. First 2 hours on track then a stiff 500m ascent then 1 hour of ridge travel and highlight of the day a good scree run back down. Great trip if you are easy/mod fitness and you have never run a scree before. Sign up on line or <a href="mailto:alan_sue@xtra.co.nz">alan_sue@xtra.co.nz</a></p>	Grade: Easy/Mod	Closes: 14 Mar
	Map: BS28	Approx: \$15
Wednesday 20 March		Club Night
<p><b>Million Dollar Mouse :</b> Stephen Horn is DOC's Invercargill-based Project Manager for the eradication of mice on the sub-Antarctic Antipodes Islands, nick-named "Million Dollar Mouse" project. Tonight he's talking about this successful eradication which took a number of years, and if time he'll cover the most recent eradication project which is on the Auckland Islands,</p>		
Wednesday 27 March		Club Night
<p><b>Newsletter Folding Evening and A.G.M.:</b> It's A.G.M. time folks... more info on positions available nearer the time. There'll be plenty of time for chat and refreshments as well as the A.G.M. because we'll so efficient!</p>		

Multi day trip 6-20 April	Leader: Bill Johnson 022 049 3453 bill@billjohnson.nz
<p><b>Peru (Huayhuash Circuit):</b> The Huayhuash (pronounced ("wii wash")) is rated one of the 10 best treks in the world and is a 120km, 11 day loop that is between 3300m and 5000m elevation. I am looking at a guided option where you can hike with just a day pack and donkeys will carry all the other gear if you want. Cost looks to be around NZ\$4500 (NZ\$1500 guide+ NZ\$1800 flights (from NZ) +NZ\$1000 hotels and misc.) The guided bit is all inclusive. I have had a number of people express interest in this trip and will likely organise it into groups of 6 to make logistics easier and for those that may want to take a more leisurely pace. Please contact leader for more details; mail.billjohnson@gmail.com.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate but at an easy pace</p> <p>16 March</p> <p>Map:</p> <p>Approx: See trip description</p>

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## Trip Reports

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20-22 October 2018

### Kirikirikatata

We were off to the Centennial Hut above Franz Josef Glacier for a long weekend of mountain climbing, glacier walking, training for snow and glacier travel, or just lounging around the hut relaxing, depending on your particular inclination and skill level. But the weather gods saw our joy, and duly threw some bad weather at us, so the west was out. Never mind, that's not the only hut on a glacier; let's go to Kelman hut in the ridge between Tasman and Murchison Glaciers. It's in the east, so probably a safe bet.

Off we go to Mount Cook and the Unwin Lodge. Looks terribly familiar to some of us, we were here only two weeks ago for the photography tramping trip. Crampons, ice axes, and helmets were doled out to those who don't have their own gear, ropes were prepared so we could tie in as soon as we left the plane, backpacks were packed full as eggs. I should mention that the original trip was planned for helicopters to the hut, but the payload is rather small – about 95 kg per person, so we needed to be careful about what we packed. The new plan was for ski planes, and the payload is massive – 145 kg per person. Load it up folks! To the airport bright and early, everything and everyone gets weighed and assigned to a plane, we're ready to go. Except the weather gods sent us a load of wind, so much that the planes couldn't land on the glacier. Go drink coffee at The Hermitage and we'll reassess at midday. But the situation deteriorated, and then the only option was helicopters, which are a bit more costly than the planes, which already cost more than the original helicopters. Damn the expense, we were all hyped up and ready to go! Problem is, there weren't any helicopters available.

A new plan was needed. And pretty quickly as well, as the day was getting on. We decided on Kirikirikatata / the Mt Cook range, with a possibility of going up Mt Wakefield. Repack the bags to get rid of the excess weight that the plane was going to carry, but was too much for us to lug up the steep ridge. Dump all the excess into Bill's and Josh's cars, and they were parked back at Unwin lodge in relative safety. My car brought us back to the start of the track, and then we all set off up the track that Alan and Jonathan had walked a

couple of weeks earlier in the photography trip. It was pretty steep and not as easy as we'd been led to believe, but then we were carrying big overnight packs. About four and a half hours of walking with stunning views of Mt Sefton and the lakes saw us arrive at the edge of the snow where we set up our camp at about 1364 metres. There's no water up there, but with all the snow about we could make as much water as we needed. That does burn gas at a rather ferocious rate though.

With the basecamp established we ate dinner and got down to some serious relaxing – all that waiting at airports put a serious strain on the body. The sunset was nothing special because there was too much cloud, but despite the winds up at the hut, it was really calm at the basecamp. The night was relatively warm, and there was little dew on the tents in the morning. There was a bit of scattered cloud to ensure a nice sunrise, and later in the day it cleared to a beautiful clear sky. Clearly the weather gods had noted our dogged persistence and given up. (Not entirely, though, they were just biding their time. Read through to the end)

Breakfast was over quickly and we were walking by 08:15 – a nice early start. It wasn't very long before we got into the snow, but crampons weren't needed – they just ended up being ballast in our backpacks. Ice axes were deployed, however, and just as well as on the way home I managed to fall and slide off the track. The training kicked in and I self-arrested automatically and quickly. I don't think I remembered to lift my feet, though. I need to train a bit more on that or I'll end up with an injury. Or perhaps I'll just try harder not to fall over.



*First view of Aoraki/Mt Cook. Photo: John Kerkhofs*

The snow was good for walking; we just took turns plugging steps and followed in each other footsteps, slowly working our way higher and higher, with spectacular views of Mt Sefton and eventually Aoraki. There was no hurry and we just rested and enjoyed the views. We had no particular destination although there was a thought that we might be able to get up Mt Wakefield. With the varying skill levels and risk tolerance of the group, by the time we got to our high point of 2000 metres we'd already had a couple of walkers call it enough and head for home, and to be honest at 2000 it was looking a bit gnarly. I think some of us would have like to go just a bit further, but time was getting on and it would have split the group up, so we turned around and headed for basecamp. The return walk was interesting, because with all the sun the snow had become quite soft, and we were constantly breaking through and going in thigh deep. The lighter members of the group

went first with the heavier ones following, but it was a constant struggle. After eight hours we reached basecamp, but there had been only three hours of moving time, according to the GPS. I can't believe that we spent 5 hours just sitting around. I reckon that when we were plugging steps in the snow, it was so slow that the GPS thought we weren't moving. It's not the first time that I've caught it lying outrageously.

On the way down we managed a couple of bum-slides in the snow, the first quite short, dropping 60 metres in 100 metres of sliding, but the second one covered 118 metres with a drop of 118 metres. Warwick came down in a huge cloud of snow, like a train ploughing through snowdrifts. There was a third short bumslide close to home, but I'd already got my pants wet enough but that time and my fingers were a bit raw from scraping on the snow while leaning on the ice axe. Use gloves next time, dummy! I walked the last short distance to the camp where we settled down to dry wet gear in the sun and just relax and get ready for dinner. I moved my tent, and I'd yet again managed to pitch it on a slope that I hadn't noticed, and I spent the night sliding off my mat. Until the meat went flat, that is, after which I lay on the cold hard ground. I suspected that the repair I'd done on a previous trip might have been less than perfect, and indeed after tipping some water on the suspect area and seeing bubbles it was confirmed. Cleaned the area, stuck on some Tenacious Tape, and it was as good as new. Moved the tent to a more level location, and I got a relatively good night's sleep.

After another calm night we packed up in the morning and wandered back down the mountain to the car. We all ended up at Unwin Lodge again to take showers and retrieve the gear that had been stowed in Bill's and Josh's cars. We agreed to meet at Tekapo for lunch, and off we went. As we were driving away from the lodge I check my mirrors to see if we'd left anything – no, but there was a large black duffel bag that looked like it didn't belong. Went back to check and it was full of ice axes crampons and helmets. At a tramping lodge that wouldn't be unusual, but when I spotted Bill's initials on an ice axe I knew it had been left behind. Somehow I managed to find room in the already packed car and carried it to Tekapo where it was reunited with its owner. Seems that in the frenzy of retrieving all our gear it had been unloaded without Bill being aware of it, and then nobody claimed it. Lucky save!

We had a leisurely lunch in a restaurant in Tekapo before the drive back to Christchurch. While it was disappointing that we hadn't managed to get to either of the huts on the glaciers, we still had a great time on the walk we did on Kirikirikatata. We'll try again another time.

Trip statistics over the three days:

Distance walked 10.2 km,

Min elevation 689m,

Max elevation 1999m,

Cumulative elevation gain 1630m.

Total time 14h 08m

Moving time 5h 26m.

Average moving speed 2.3 km/h.

Postscriptum: As I'm writing this several weeks after the event, I can give you a sneak preview of the next attempt. Another fail! Both huts will suffer adverse weather conditions

over Show Weekend, so the planned trip has completely fallen apart and most of the participants have joined onto an alternative trip. The club president even suggested that we stop trying to get onto a glacier as “it’s bugging up the weather for the rest of the club”. I think there’s probably some truth in that.

The participants were Bill Johnson (Leader), Basia Nowak, Barney Stephenson, Emma Rogers, Jennifer Bufford, Joshua Johnson, Maria Gutierrez, Monika Bratownik, Nikita Yaroslavtsev, Warwick Dowling, Zack Williams, John Kerkhofs (Scribe and photographer)

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16-18 November 2018

## Mystery Tops

The Centennial Hut trip fell apart again – You may remember that I mentioned on the report from the last attempt that the weather gods were biding their time? Well they flexed their muscles again but this time fortunately far enough ahead that we had some time to find an alternative. After several alternatives were suggested, we decided to join Chris’ Mystery Tops tour. On the afternoon before departure Chris saw the number of trampers on his trip suddenly double to twelve.

The trip was scheduled for Judge’s Creek with a return over the Mangerton Range, just west of Coldwater creek. This is up that Rainbow road which connects Hanmer with St Arnaud. DOC rates this road as four wheel drive – yeah, right! We know how over-cautious Aunty DOC is. Still, with the low ground clearance of my car I thought it better to heed the warning, and decided to be a passenger for a change. It wasn’t too long up the Rainbow Road before I was glad that I’d made that choice. Even Alan’s car, which sits higher than mine but is not a 4WD, was scraping its bottom occasionally on some of the larger stone on the road, a situation not greatly helped by the flat tire that we discovered when we stopped to assess the for at Rag and Famish Creek. (Odd name for a creek, I thought, sounds more like a pub. An indeed there is a Rag and Famish hotel in Sydney. No clues as to the origin of the creek’s name though.) The wheel was soon changed, but the spare was a space-saver, which doesn’t help ground clearance at all, so we abandoned the car at the side of the road. The load was redistributed between the other two vehicles, which led to Alan and Chris being jammed in the back of the ute with a vast number of backpacks. We carried on a bit further and soon encountered a slip across the road that had been partially cleared. Another 4wd that was ahead of us made a half-hearted attempt to cross it, but failed. The ute might have made it across, but there was no way the 4wd station wagon was going to make it, and as for Alan’s car..... A new plan was needed.

According to my GPS it was still 10 km in a straight line to the start of the track. There as no way we were going to walk that. We were hampered by lack of a map - I’d loaded the GPX with only the map of the area we were going to, however when you have Jonathan you don’t need a map, and several others in our group were familiar with the area, so a decision was made - we’d go over the Paske saddle. Back to Lake Tennyson, park the cars, and it was lunchtime already. We were certainly off to a late start, but we soon had backpacks loaded and wandered the short distance down to the river and prepared to cross. The bottom was nice, just gravel and no big rocks, so a good number of us decided to cross in bare feet. Some of the old hands just charged across in their boots and scoffed at the sissies who didn’t want to get their feet wet, but we were 5 minutes into a three-day walk and it seemed a bit silly to get wet boots unnecessarily right at the start. Don’t get me wrong, I’m all for walking in water, but only if it’s unavoidable. Given the choice of wet feet or dry feet, dry is a clear winner.

So feet dried and suitably shod we wandered of along the shore of Lake Tennyson past

the only DOC sign I can remember seeing, apart from the one on the door of the Paske Hut. I didn't even read it, but I assume that it just said that this was the start of the track. After a short while we left the lake and plunged into the forest, following vague signs of people having been there before us, or just picking a route through the trees. This soon turned into finding a route through matagouri, which is always great fun, and eventually, but not soon enough, we emerged from the undergrowth onto the far shore of the lake where we commenced our easy walk along the river. There were good views of both the St James range and the Crimea Range as we walked, the Waiiau Toa mostly out of sight but never terribly far away. As we wandered further up the valley we ended up walking in the river bed, but it was dry as a bone, running underground. Side streams were flowing into the main riverbed and soon disappearing into the gravel.

Camping by a dry river isn't great, as we need a water source for the night. The hunt was on for a nice flattish area close to water, and we soon found a beautiful waterfall with plenty of flat ground. Tents were quickly pitched, although I wasn't too quick about it as I have a terrible track record of locating a seemingly suitable site, only to discover after dark that in fact there is a bit of a slope, and I spend the night rolling to the side, or even worse sliding head-first into the end of the tent. I tried several sites before settling on one with a waterfall view, and it worked out pretty well. I was sliding feet first into the end, which is definitely the best way to slide, but it's surprising how it all looks OK lying on the ground before pitching the tent, but then when I crawl into the sleeping bag it's all different. The sleeping mat needs a non-slip surface to hold the bag in place. With all the flat ground available the tents were spread far and wide, which made it a bit of a walk to go to the neighbours for dinner. Nevertheless, we did manage to form groups around various tents where we ate dinners and socialised, before retiring to bed after an unspectacular sunset.

There were a few minor showers of rain overnight, but the morning was dry as we ate breakfast and packed out backpacks. The approach to the Paske Saddle was just the next valley up, so before long we were climbing through the scrub beside a waterfall. I did mention earlier that there was no track to follow, didn't I? It was an interesting climb, fortunately devoid of any sharp plants, so there were plenty of handholds on the way up. Point to note though, those leafy green ones aren't terribly good at holding 100kg of tramper and backpack; when you're sliding down the hill it's best to grab the ones with the woody stems. Probably better not to slide down the hill in the first place, but stuff happens, you know.

We made it to the Paske Saddle in about ?? hours, a little but wet due to the frequent drizzle, but we were still in good spirits. and grateful for some downhill we charged down to Paske Hut as fast as we could. It wasn't all beer and skittles though, the slippery tussock making some of us fall over repeatedly, but tussock is nice and soft there were no hard landings, for me at least. Once at the hut we settled down for a nice long lunch and a rest before tackling the next saddle, over Turk Ridge and down to the Wairau River. After we broke out of the forest we got a good view of the cloud that was obscuring the saddle, which was not particularly encouraging. As we continued up, however, it started to clear a bit, and on the other side it stayed dry for the rest of the day. There was a decent amount of snow on the Wairau side of Turk Ridge, and there was a bit of talk of bumsliding to get down quickly and have a bit of fun, but the runout looked rather rocky to me, so I wasn't going to join in. Besides which, nobody had ice axes except for Chris, so how would they control the descent? I slipped and started sliding on the walk down, and it was hard enough stopping just from that. In the end we all just walked down quickly, and the rest of the afternoon was spent walking down the Wairau valley looking for a place with:

- 1 - Flat ground for tents

2 - A good water supply

3 - Close to the next saddle so we wouldn't have too far to walk in the morning.

Pick any three of the above.

We managed to find a place that met all the criteria, and as a bonus there was a spectacular waterfall as a backdrop. Prime real estate indeed!

You may recall that I mentioned how soft the tussock was for falling into when going downhill? The tussock by the river was a different beast - it hid big holes and rocks. While wading through a thigh-deep patch I encountered an unfortunate combination of tussock, hole, and rock that pitched me forward and scraped my shin over the rock. My gaiter was no use; because I was falling forwards the rock just pushed it down my leg, together with a fair quantity of skin. This was definitely beyond a band-aid fixup, but fortunately I had in my kit some of those clear plastic Flexigrid dressings – wipe the blood away, slap on a couple of 10cm dressing, and I was good as new. Of course the blood collects behind the clear dressing, so it's not a pretty sight, but it wasn't leaking out and making a mess, and the wound looks impressive when you're showing it off later. Those dressings aren't cheap, but they are damned effective, and 100% waterproof as well. I heartily recommend them.

So another campsite, and fortunately the drizzle had not returned since we came down from Turk Ridge. With the energy burned on the two saddles, there was little enthusiasm for staying up late, so our tired bodies were in bed well before sunset. This time I'd positioned my tent correctly and didn't slide off my sleeping mat. Nice! I hope it works that well next time. Again there was just a little rain overnight, but nothing to be concerned about, and in the morning it was a nice clear day. People were getting out of bed shortly after 06:00, so it looked like we'd have a reasonably early departure, and in fact we were walking shortly after 08:00. The morning had been clear at first with some sun on the mountains, but by departure time a strong cold nor'wester had come up, which left some of us huddling together for warmth while the others finished their packing.

First stop was the waterfall. Several people wanted to get a close-up view, but I couldn't be bothered. Having seen Emma's photos though, I wish I had taken the trouble. Never mind, I'll catch it next time. The next objective was to gain the nameless saddle on the Crimea Range. I don't think that we'd appointed a proper navigation committee, or there was poor communication, but it ended up the Jonathan, Geoff and Lynette went up the easy wide valley while the rest of us struggled up a steep rocky slope. I was certain I'd heard Jonathan say that the wide easy saddle took us in the wrong direction, but evidently I'd misheard, and I wasn't alone. I'm sure not all the walkers appreciated the extra effort that had to be put in, but as a consolation, the valley walkers found it rather warm as they climbed up, while the route that the rest of us took can best be described as "well-ventilated".

From the saddle we continued upwards to the summit of Mount Maling at 1825m before starting the final descent to the lake – or actually, into the lake, as it came right up to the undergrowth in places, forcing some knee-deep wading. Chris led us on a sidle across a scree slope that had some unfortunate concrete-like sections that were slightly precarious. The plan was to stay high as long as possible before dropping to the lakes and the bush, which could be more difficult walking. I wasn't terribly happy with the concrete-like bits, but I followed my leader. When I finally stopped to look behind me, I saw that most of the others had dropped off into a creek that ran into the head of the lake, leaving Chris and me to it. I didn't fancy dropping into the forest, so I just kept following Chris through the now quite nice scree. We continued for a fair while until we encountered some rocks that look a bit impassable, so we started our descent to the lake through a couple of lovely scree runs

which let us lose elevation quite quickly. Of course the scree didn't go all the way to the lake, it ended up behind some bushes with about a three metre drop to the water. We just crawled over the top of them and then it was just a flat walk along the lake edge, with a the occasional foray into the lake where there was no dry land available. We met Geoff resting by the lake; he'd done the creek descent as well, but being considerably faster than anybody else he was way ahead. Chris and I waited with him until the others turned up, bringing the first drops of rain with them, so we hot-footed it back to the cars to get out before the weather turned.

Of course we now had the problem of the space saver on Alan's car. Those tyres aren't really designed for South Island gravel roads, more for Japanese cities where the nearest puncture repair place is a short drive away. We put just Alan and me into the car, and the other two cars took all the gear and five people each. We drove out slowly in between the other cars, the theory being that if we got stuck, the car could be easily pulled out in either direction. Once off the gravel, we wound it up to 90, a mere 10 over the stated maximum of the tyre. Those safety margin generally have a decent allowance over the stated limit – that was the theory, anyway.

Once in Culverden, we stopped at the pub to let the tyre cool down, and took the opportunity to cool ourselves down as well. Our gear was transferred back to Alan's car, and we were on our own for the trip back to Christchurch. A bit unfortunate for Zack, as I'd picked him up when we left on the trip, and he was going to be back much earlier with no ride home. As it turned out, we arrived at the meeting point in Christchurch only just after the others, proving that there's not really a lot of time difference between driving at 100 or 90.

So we'd had a great weekend, even if it wasn't quite to plan. For the origin six walkers it was Plan B, but for the would-be glacier heli-hikers, it was somewhere around Plan E. But it ended well, we had fun, we used up the entire long weekend, and we didn't get rained on. OK, there was drizzle, but that's not real rain. It's more a bit of a nuisance that obscures the view and makes things slippery.

Trip statistics over the three days:

Distance walked 33.6 km,

Min elevation 1096m,

Max elevation 1918m,

Cumulative elevation gain 2549m.

Total walk time 19h 39m

Moving time 10h 32m.

Average moving speed 3.19 km/h.

The participants were Chris McGimpsey (Leader), Emma Rogers, Joshua Johnson, Monika Bratownik, Zack Williams, Carol Horgan, Alan Ross, Geoff Hall, Lynette Hartley, Jonathan Carr, Barry Watson, John Kerkhofs (Scribe and photographer)

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1-2 December 2018

## **Lower Salmon Creek Biv**

Unfortunately everyone except Kayleigh dropped out of my Otehake River trip, and with the forecast looking a bit miserable for the Divide, Plan B of Falling Mountain became Plan

C.. Lower Salmon Creek Biv in Oxford Forest. Kayleigh didn't appreciate being told at the start of the trip that since it was still an official club trip she had to follow the leader's instructions at all times. A somewhat slow start and a long drive through to Lees Valley dodging trucks piled high with wool meant that we didn't get walking till nearly 1 pm.



*Lower Salmon Creek Biv. Photo: Nick Edwards*

After a long slog across farmland we climbed up through the forest to Black Hill Hut, then up and over Black Hill and down the other side. Despite the forecast being quite wet, we avoided all of the rain and even got good views over the plains and to The Divide from the top. The climb was made much worse by the super muggy conditions. The track from Black Hill and the biv itself are lovingly maintained by Honora and Mike, and both are in great condition. The biv is in a really nice location, feeling very remote despite only being 5 hours walk from the car. It is well equipped with billys and an outside firepit with trivet, so we cooked our dinner on the fire. The hut book is still Forest Service issue dating from before I was born, and is less than half full. the majority of recent users seem to be godzone trainees who walk in then packraft out down the Waimak. Kayleigh lost one of her walking socks while washing in the river, and got totally soaked chasing after it. Luckily she had a pair of hut socks that she could wear the next day, but thick wool socks weren't ideal for a hot day.

The next day we returned a slightly longer route via the Wharfedale Hut, making about 41 km in just over 24 hours. Would definitely recommend as an option when the weather's bad in the mountains.

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2 December 2018

## **Mount Fyffe**

Symon put together a day trip up Mount Fyffe, just behind Kaikoura, and just for a change it went according to plan – almost. On Friday Symon came down with a cold and asked Barry to take over as trip leader. I heard about it when Barry asked me if I knew anything about where this trip started. No worries, I'd already programmed the GPS, just follow the blue car from Kaikoura. It's a solid three hour drive to the start, which rather fits in with my perception of Symon's trips where the driving must be approximately as long as the walking, and in this case it exceeded the walk time by a pretty fair margin. We had already brought the start time forward to 07:00, as we didn't want to be arriving back in Christchurch at 22:00.

I arranged to pick up my usual team – Emma, Monika, and Zack – and we would meet the others at Amberley rather than going to the usual meeting point. Then Josh asked to join us, allegedly because he wanted to travel with “the cool people”. The others were fine with

having three in the back seat; no skin off my nose since the driver always gets an uncrowded seat. I programmed the pickup addresses into Garmin Basecamp, told it when I wanted to be in Amberley, and it gave me all the pickup times. It was surprisingly accurate too, by the time we were at the last pickup we were running two minutes early.

Amberley is a good stop on the way north – on Saturday there is a farmer's market that is well worth a visit, but on this trip due to the early departure it wasn't open yet. However there is the wonderful Paris Bakery and Café. We discovered this on our last trip, and it will become a regular stop. It's run by a Frenchman so you are getting the real French experience, and the array of pastries is just stupendous. I was concerned that we'd be too early with our rescheduled departure time, but I rang the day before and established that they are open between 07:00 and 14:00 on Saturdays. Chicken and Mayo baguette for lunch, and a strawberry tart for late breakfast or early morning tea, whichever you prefer.



*Monika on Mt Fyffe. Photo: Emma Rogers*

The rest of the group joined us in Amberley, and we headed off to Kaikoura for a regroup at the turnoff to Mt Fyffe. A couple of hours later we were heading from Kaikoura to the Mt Fyffe car park, so far off the beaten track that the GPS couldn't take us all the way there. The road signs were fairly minimal, but fortunately we spotted the car park sign soon after the GPS had given up.

The weather had been discouragingly cloudy all morning, but it was still quite warm with hardly a breath of wind. After getting the gear sorted out we started walking just before 10:30, a little later than I'd expected but it takes a while to get eleven walkers organised. There had been some talk about a faster group doing a diversion up the Kowhai river, up Spaniard Spur to the hut, and then rejoining the main party from there. However enthusiasm had been dwindling, and when we saw the turbulent brown waters of the Kowhai we realised that survival of attempting that route was not assured, and enthusiasm evaporated entirely.

So the group of eleven set off up the four wheel drive track that goes most of the way to the summit, and quickly separated into faster and

slower groups. We regrouped at on the way up, and then again at the Mt Fyffe Hut where we stopped for lunch. The track is rather uninspiring, just a relentless uphill slog, and the views were of the inside of the clouds. At the hut we got an occasional glimpse of the track up to the summit, but that was about all. Fortunately it wasn't cold, in fact, with the lack of wind we were feeling the heat somewhat.

After a 40 minute lunch break we continued to the summit where we took another 40 minute break. On the way up the clouds started to clear a bit, giving us occasional glimpses of the mountains and the coast. There certainly weren't any of the spectacular views we had been promised, Banks Peninsula and the North Island remaining completely obscured. The slight breeze at the summit had started to chill us a bit, so we headed back down, regrouping at the hut, and then again in the car park. The total walk time was just

over 6 hours, well under DOC's estimate of 8 Hrs.

By now it was almost 17:00, so we needed to head into Kaikoura for food. Fish and chips and burgers were ordered, the financials for the car pool were taken care of, and we set off on the long trip back to Christchurch. By the time I'd dropped off my last passenger it had been almost a 15 hour day. I'm not keen to ever do that track again, but I'm seriously considering a trip up the Kowhai river (at a time that it's not brown and turbulent) to the Hapuku Hut, and then back over Mt Fyffe from the north and down the 4WD track. If you don't mind wet feet and walking in a river bed for 8 hours, let me know.

Trip statistics:

Distance walked 17.3 km,

Min elevation 182m,

Max elevation 1598m,

Cumulative elevation gain 1451m.

Total walk time 6h 10m

Moving time 4h 01m.

Average moving speed 4.3 km/h.

The participants were Barry Watson (Leader), Emma Rogers, Joshua Johnson, Monika Bratownik, Zack Williams, Andrew Ecker, Lorraine Poole, Nick Moody, Grant Barrie, Claudio De Tommasi, John Kerkhofs (Scribe and photographer)

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20 January 2019

## **Un-tracked East Ridge of Mt. Somers**

Dave Sutton and 8 others kindly tolerated me on Dave's impromptu expedition to the un-tracked east ridge of Mt. Somers. We set off from the Sharplin Falls car park, myself with considerable trepidation about imminent pleasures. After about 15 easy but fast mins, we departed the Sharplin Falls track to cross Bowyer's Stream somewhere below the falls and confront our first obstacle – a 3 metre high boulder blocking our way in to Tinstone Creek. Bryce took the dry foot option, a nervey and balancey looking push along a log and over the boulder with a possible drop to the rocks below, I chickened out for the wet foot option over slime covered rocks in the creek which was probably much worse, and added extra grams to my legs. We then clambered through and over trees and loose walls and then up a wet gut to get to the ridge. This turned out to be the crux, the rest was hard work and perseverance pushing and crawling through the thickets and bush lawyer with lots of scratches to get to occasional easy tracky bits. We got to 1120 m close to the bush line three hours later in time for lunch, having covered 2.64 km. and gained 650 m. height. Another two kms. and 560 m. to go to the top. Once clear of the bush it was a run for the others and for me a slower plod to the top. Wind was forecast to be >100 kph declining to 70 kph, but it was pleasant and just breezy on the summit. A good rest in the lee of a walled in rock, then down the Summit Track on the south face. Once off the steep bit, another 3.5 km back over Steveley Hil to the car park. A great 8 hr. day, all muscles well exercised, 1,430 m up and 10 km distance. Thanks to Dave and the excellent company provided by the others. Party: David Sutton (leader), Bryce Williamson, John West, Frances the Radiologist, Kate Taylor, Elizabeth Eadon, Noel Walker, Dean Herring, Andrew from Geraldine and myself. Report: Barney Stephenson and thanks to Bryce for corrected text and photos.

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# More about the CTC

**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. 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 you start with Karen Tait, 027 545 7404, or Jonathan Carr, 022 034 4608. Then try 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. Refer to the list of Club Officers below, and on [www.ctc.org.nz](http://www.ctc.org.nz). Members (particularly Trip Leaders) please discuss this arrangement with your loved ones so they are aware of this procedure.

## Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Chris McGimpsey	027 657 3070	<i>Overnight Trip Organiser:</i>	Barry Watson	021668895
<i>Vice President:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Kay Taylor	03358-4580
<i>Secretary:</i>	Natasha Sydorenko		<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Bernhard Parawa	337 3125
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Carol Horgan	027 212 7294	<i>Editor:</i>	Eric Skea	021 0247 5473
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196
<i>New Members Rep:</i>	Joshua Johnson	0278865868	<i>IT Convenor:</i>	Nick Edwards	0273656751
<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Kelly Purdie	027 614 2255	<i>Access Officer:</i>	Ian Dunn	0212141907

Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor  
([editor@ctc.org.nz](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz)) by 21 February 2019 – Thanks.

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