



# 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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*Hurunui Hot Pools, July 2009*

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 \$40 member, \$60 couple, \$23 junior or associate, with a \$5 discount for members who opt to obtain this newsletter electronically.

For more about how the club operates, see *More about the CTC*.

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## News

**New Members:** A warm welcome to our two new members this month, Claire Jacob and David Gardiner. Happy tramping!

**Annual Christmas BBQ:** The annual club BBQ will be on Thursday 3 December. Put a note in your diary. See page 9 for more details.

**NZAC Photo Competition:** If you found the heady delights of our own photo competition addictive, you may be interested in the Alpine Club's Mt Aspiring / Tititea photo competition. See page 16 for details.

# Tramper of the Month: Bernhard Parawa

<i>Place of Birth?</i>	Big Syd. NSW, Australia.	
<i>Have you always lived in NZ ?</i>	No, but resided in NZ for the past 32 yrs.	
<i>Date joined CTC?</i>	About 1997.	
<i>What was your first day trip with the club?</i>	to Mt Herbert from Orten Bradley via Packhorse Hut. Still a very good walk.	
<i>What was your first first weekend trip with the club?</i>	Up the St James track hung a left over the Libretto Range and down Foley Crk.	
<i>What's your favourite hut?</i>	Hard to choose, but I prefer a tent than a full hut of trampers.	
<i>What's your favourite day trip?</i>	The Mt Somers area, where you can tramp all year round.	
<i>Your favourite weekend trip?</i>	My favourite weekend trip (plus an extra day) would be the 3 Passes from Klondyke to Kaniere. Various terrain.	
<i>Family?</i>	My wife Gerry still enjoys herself when I'm away and finds plenty of things to do for me when at home. Three children: youngest is 25.	
<i>What was the biggest influence on your tramping days?</i>	My children. With proper planning it was a win/win situation.	
<i>Nicknames?</i>	Had plenty. None of them stuck.	
<i>Other Interests?</i>	Mainly travelling, people, enviromental issues and family.	
<i>Did you do any other tramping before joining the CTC?</i>	I did a lot of walking on Dartmoor while at school, and then odd bits and pieces in the UK. Since coming to NZ in 2005 I did the odd day walk in Arthur's Pass and the Port Hills before joining the club.	
<i>Is there anything else the CTC should know about you?</i>	I think I've bored them enough, but I could say that extra effort does have its rewards.	

## Calendar of Trips and Social Events

**Trips:** Unless otherwise stated, day trips depart at 8:00 am and weekend trips depart at 7:00 pm on Fridays, from Shell Carlton Corner Service Station at 1 Papanui Road (next to Liquor Land and opposite Derby Street). If you aren't taking your car on the trip, park on one of the nearby side streets, otherwise it may be wheel clamped or towed. If you are taking your car please refuel at Shell Carlton, as they are kind enough to hold our trip lists. Every trip gives an indication of transport costs per person. Please bring it in cash to help the leader divvy up at the end.

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 Thursdays 7:30 pm at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre (Watling Lounge), Hagley Park South, 57 Riccarton Avenue (entrance opposite the hospital). A variety of social functions are organised, the atmosphere is informal, and tea and biscuits served. If you can give a presentation or have ideas, please contact Alan Ross 384-6425 or email alan.d.ross@orica.com. 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.

Saturday 31 October.		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360	
<p><b>Mt Lyndon.</b> Mt Lyndon (1489m) is - unsurprisingly - right next to Lake Lyndon, at the other side of Porters Pass. It's a nice little trip, looking out towards Castle Hill Peak and Torlesse one way, and the Porter Heights ski area the other. About 550m of height gain, untracked but through relatively easy sub-alpine scrub, and about 8 k.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy/Mod            Closed: 29 Oct            Map: K35            Approx:</p>	
Weekend 31 October-1 November.		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006	
<p><b>Cass Lagoon.</b> The Cass-Lagoon is a good standard Canterbury tramping trip, well marked and with a big warm hut for Saturday night. Come along and join Andrew on what is often one of the club's best moderate weekend trips.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate            Closed: 22 Oct            Map: K34            Approx:</p>	
Sunday 1 November.		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz	
<p><b>Gargarus.</b> Go to classical Greece for only \$20! The original Gargarus - as mentioned in Homer's 'The Iliad' - is the topmost peak of Mt Ida (also known as Kaz Dağy) in the environs of ancient Troy in what is now Turkey. Our Gargarus (1855m) - note opposite to Mt Ida! - is a very satisfying peak close to Lake Coleridge. There is about 1100m total height gain and it is reasonably steep, straight up the tussock and a bit stonier at the top. From the top you can look out over the lake or up the Harper, the Avoca and the Wilberforce, and eye up the Spurs and Mt Ida for another day ...</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate            Closed: 29 Oct            Map: K34            Approx: \$20</p>	
Wednesday 4 November. 6:00 pm		Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914	
<p><b>Get Fit for Tramping.</b> Come with Susan for an hour's vigorous exercise in Mt Vernon Park. Just turn up in the car park at 6:00pm. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve climbing towards the summit road. Guaranteed to boost your fitness for the coming summer tramps.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate            Just turn up            Map:            Approx: None</p>	
Thursday 5 November.		Club Night	
<p><b>NOTE changed from previous newsletter - photos of tramping with the CTC.</b> We will have a club member taking us on some local trips with the club and then some social time.</p>			

Saturday 7 November.	Leader: Joy Schroeder 351-4655
<b>Packhorse Hut &amp; Mt Bradley.</b> We'll go up to the Packhorse Hut from the pretty Kaituna Valley, just before Little River. It is about 600m height gain to the Hut on a good track. The Hut itself is a lovely old building of Halswell stone dating from 1914. It is formally called the Sign of the Packhorse and - like the Sign of Takehe, Sign of the Kiwi, etc - was originally built as a rest house for Harry Ell's proposed summit route from Christchurch to Akaroa. From the Hut, those that want to can go up Mt Bradley (855m). We may also be able to visit the Remarkable Dykes area and take a different ridge back down towards the cars.	Grade: Easy or EasyMod Closes: 5 Nov Map: M36 Approx: \$10

Weekend 7-8 November.	Leader: Ross Ogden 351-1857
<b>Hawdon Hut - Discovery Stream - Sudden Valley.</b> Well the title is what we think the trip will entail. There is also a possibility it might involve Walker Pass and an un-named peak near Amber Col, or a wander up towards Trudge Col, or .... Anyway the hills will be pretty, there is a nice new hut to stay at, the weather will be great, the water in the rivers will be low, there are mules to carry the packs, the hut chef is taking orders .....	Grade: ModHard Closed: 29 Oct Map: K33 Approx: \$30

Sunday 8 November.	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045 warwick.dowling@clear.net.nz
<b>Sudden Valley Track Clearing.</b> The CTC has adopted the Sudden Valley track, and has agreed with DOC to clear it. The section of interest to us lies between where the track leaves the gorge (wet feet up the gorge of course) and climbs up and skirts the waterfalls through the forest, to where it reaches the open Sudden Valley. The distance is not great, and the scenery is marvelous, so the work part won't take long with a group of us going at it. Bring your own hand tools only (no power tools). Protect all sharps with blade covers. Bring your own normal tramping gear and food, plus work gloves and tools. Suggested tools are saws, loppers, small axes, and maybe one grubber between us.	Grade: Easy/Mod + Work Closes: 5 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$25

Wednesday 11 November. 6:00 pm	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<b>Get fit for Tramping.</b> Come with Susan for an hour's vigorous exercise in Mt Vernon Park. Just turn up in the car park at 6:00pm. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve climbing towards the summit road. Guaranteed to boost your fitness for the coming summer tramps.	Grade: EasyMod just turn up Map: Approx: None

Thursday 12 November.	Club Night
<b>No Club tonight since it's Show Weekend.</b> If you are fortunate enough to be able to go on a long trip you will be in transit tonight. No club tonight.	

Friday 13 November. (meet Bus Exchange, 8 am)	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
<p><b>Mt Herbert by ferry.</b> Leave your car keys at home and take the ferry instead. Meet us at the Bus Exchange, platform C, in time to catch the number 35 bus at at 8.13 am (or contact the leader in advance to arrange to find your own way to Lyttelton). The ferry leaves Lyttelton at 9.00 am and drops us off at the start of our track just 10 minutes later. Starting at sea level it is 919m total height gain and 8km distance to the top of Mt Herbert where we'll have good views over Banks Peninsula, Lyttelton and Christchurch. After having a late lunch at the top we'll walk the same way back and stop for a decent ice cream in Diamond Harbour before catching the ferry home. Remember to bring sun screen, and plenty of water (there is no drinkable water along the track). You'll also need cash/MetroCard for the bus and cash for the ferry (\$10 return, MetroCard discount).</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 12 Nov Map: M36 Approx: \$15</p>

Long Weekend 13-15 November.	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<p><b>Lake Guyon Outdoor Toy Symposium.</b> Show weekend - Come one and all. Bring out the toys, we're off to Lake Guyon. Lie by the lake and read a book, MTB the newly opened tracks of the St James Station, head over the valley and climb Mt Una (2300m and it's not the height gain that will be the problem, it's the projaginous rock. Refer Grant Wheaton, circa late '80's on an ascent of Una, combined "problematic, jagged, and heinous" to describe the situation. I think the real problem was that he was standing on his own fingers in a particularly complex rock climbing move he invented). An inner tube race down the lake ( judges decision on best cheating method will be final), fishing for those who do, throwing stones into the lake to annoy the fish for those who don't. Kayaks, rafts or river bugs can take to the Waiau River. Horse trekking if you can beat the DOC catfood hunters to catch one. There might even be some who want to go tramping!!</p>	<p>Grade: All Closes: 5 Nov Map: M31 Approx: \$40</p>

Long Weekend 13-15 November.	Leader: Antony White 021 0497 893 phoenixantony@gmail.com
<p><b>Lewis Tops - Brass Monkey Biv - Mt Technical.</b> Great tops travel area. The intention is to go in at the Nina Valley and camp beside idyllic tarns, providing that the weather allows us such tramping luxuries. The 3 day trip gives us options to go up to Mt Technical, (which is not very technical from the tarns), plus Brass Monkey Biv, and possibly take in The Grand Duchess as well. The snow may have melted by December, so we may not need ice axe and crampons, but check with the leader first.</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard Closes: 5 Nov Map: M31 Approx:</p>

Wednesday 18 November. 6:00pm	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<b>Get fit for Tramping.</b> Come with Susan for an hour's vigorous exercise in Mt Vernon Park. Just turn up in the car park at 6:00pm. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve climbing towards the summit road. Guaranteed to boost your fitness for the coming summer tramps.	Grade: EasyMod Just turn up Map: Approx: None

Thursday 19 November.	Club Night
<b>Results of the Photo Competition.</b> Our judge will go through all the entries and end up with the winner. So if you entered, come along and see how you did. If you didn't enter, come along to see the submitted photos. I am sure there are some great shots in the mix.	

Saturday 21 November.	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
<b>Kaka Hill.</b> Kaka Hill (994m) is pretty little topographical protuberance right by the edge of Lake Coleridge. There are plenty of more strenuous trips out this way but this is a great opportunity to experience this very spectacular tramping area in more relaxed mode (although, with about 500m height gain, this may be at the more-muesli-bars-before-lunch end of our normal 'easy trip' range). It really is a stunning area and the longer drive is worth it just to see Lake Coleridge if you've never been there before, let alone the social delights of a CTC trip...	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 19 Nov Map: K35 Approx: \$25

Weekend 21-22 November.	Leader: Michele Hood 342-6440 mickyh@clear.net.nz
<b>Mt Fyfe.</b> Leave town Saturday morning - coffee at Kaikoura then the hard work starts with a 900m climb to the Fyffe Hut. Hopefully beautiful views over the Kaikoura peninsula, sunset and sunrise. Depending on the group out the same way or down Spaniard Spur and out the Kowhai river bed.	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 12 Nov Map: O31 Approx: \$40

Sunday 22 November.	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<b>Round Mt Somers.</b> You too can do the classic CTC 'round the mountain'. We start and end at the Sharplin Falls car park and go right around Mt Somers in a day. We'll be doing the main event again in February (for runners and trampers), but here is a sneak preview if you'd like to see what it's like. This is a superb trip, taking in a variety of vegetation - through beech forest, under waterfalls, and over open tussock and sub-alpine scrub. There is a good track the whole way around and you pass Pinnacles Hut and the new(ish) Woolshed Creek hut before crossing the face of Mt Somers on the newest section of the track. There is nothing difficult about any of the terrain but it's a long day - total length 28km and a cumulative height gain of 2000m - so be prepared for a 10 hour tramp.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 19 Nov Map: K36 Approx: \$20

Wednesday 25 November. 6:00pm	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<b>Get Fit for Tramping.</b> Come with Susan for an hour's vigorous exercise in Mt Vernon Park. Just turn up in the car park at 6:00pm. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve climbing towards the summit road. Guaranteed to boost your fitness for the coming summer tramps.	Grade: EasyMod just turn up Map: Approx: None

Thursday 26 November.	Club Night
<b>Auction Night + Newsletter folding.</b> After we have folded the newsletter we will have an auction. Do you have too many fleece jackets or boots that no longer fit or a sleeping bag you no longer need? This is the chance to turn that surplus item into \$\$\$\$. We also have 2x club tent flies up for sale which we understand are in demand. So bring in those items and turn them into money.	

Saturday 28 November. 9am start Saturday, plus note Friday night session	Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<b>Navigation Course.</b> Learn those essential navigation skills - map, compass and the basics of using a GPS - on this navigation course. Recommended for all club members who feel a bit directionally and cartographically challenged at times. There will be a preparation session on Friday night, 7pm - 9.30 pm (probably at the Horticultural Hall). Saturday will be a full day, learning skills and putting them into practice 'in the field' including not just map reading but real navigation in the hills. Normal full tramping gear, pack, lunch, etc required (leader will provide maps). There will be a 9am start for this (usual meeting place - Shell, Carlton Corner). An important part of the course will be the selection of suitable equipment (compasses, GPS etc) so don't make any purchases until you have done the course!	Grade: Training Closes: 26 Nov Map: Approx:

Saturday 28 November.	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com
<b>North Canterbury Coastline - first half.</b> See the North Canterbury Coastline weekend trip - there is the option of just doing day 1 of this scenic coastal wander. Contact the leader for options.	Grade: Easy Closes: 26 Nov Map: N34 N33 Approx: \$20

Weekend 28-29 November.	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014
<b>North Canterbury Coastline.</b> Napenape to Amberley Beach. Scenic coastline wandering along cliffs, beaches and farm country, there are a few gullies, streams and hills to scramble up, down and around as you go. Mostly limestone/mudstone geology so plenty of opportunity to fossick for fossils (no, not the trip participants, the rocky sort!!). Approx 25km each day, it may be possible to do each day with a day trip pack if a car shuttle driver can be arranged to drop off the overnight gear. If you are keen to do just one day please indicate "Sat or Sun only" on the trip list to help work out car shuffles. A large number of farms need to be contacted for permission so there may be an alternative trip.	Grade: Easy Closes: 19 Nov Map: N34 N33 Approx: \$30

Weekend 28-29 November.	Leader: Ross Ogden 351-1857 r.l.ogden@xnet.co.nz
<b>Temple Col - Lake Mavis - Edwards.</b> Alpine wandering at Arthurs pass. Tramping across the grain of the country rather than with the valleys so not much river crossing on this trip but lots of up and down. Good fitness required but nothing technical beyond good ice axe and crampon skills.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 19 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$35

Sunday 29 November. (early start, contact leader)	Leader: David Sutton 960-1877 davidsutton@clear.net.nz
<b>Mt White.</b> Mt White, 1741m, is a trip we have not done for a few years but we had a great day last time (that was the inaugural appearance of Uncle Bernhard's infamous 'happy bobs' ...). The trip is at the more strenuous end of moderate just because of the height gain (about 1200m height gain from the cars) and length (15-20 k depending on our route on the day) but it is a lovely place with great views. We'll be able to make a loop with some good tops travel and a return on a 4wd track in the Esk Valley. It's a long drive so there will be an early start - make sure you contact the leader for this trip.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Nov Map: L34 Approx: \$25

Sunday 29 November.	Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com
<b>North Canterbury Coastline - second half.</b> See the North Canterbury Coastline weekend trip - there is the option of just doing day 2 of this scenic coastal wander. Contact the leader for options.	Grade: Easy Closes: 26 Nov Map: N34 N33 Approx: \$20

Wednesday 2 December. 6:00pm	Leader: Susan Pearson 337-4914
<b>Get Fit for Tramping.</b> Come with Susan for an hour's vigorous exercise in Mt Vernon Park. Just turn up in the car park at 6:00pm. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve climbing towards the summit road. Guaranteed to boost your fitness for the coming summer tramps.	Grade: EasyMod Just Turn Up Map: Approx: None

Thursday 3 December.	Club Night
<b>ANNUAL BBQ.</b> Tonight is the Annual BBQ held at the usual Halswell Quarry at Findlay Area 2. Meet from 6pm. BBQs will be arranged. This is a great social event in the awesome warm weather that we will have. Bring some sports gear: we'll have a game of cricket or similar.	
Saturday 5 December.	Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<b>River Crossing.</b> Come along and take the plunge! A River Crossing course is essential training for new trampers and a good refresher for the more experienced. Bring plenty of warm tramping clothing to wear while training, including enough for changes into dry clothes once what you have on gets wet. Also bring a large pack with a waterproof pack liner filled with spare clothing etc to bulk it up. This is for pack buoyancy while training. Remember you'll also need a complete change of warm clothing to wear afterwards. Training will be followed by a barbecue (bring your own food and drink). Venue will be the Waimakariri River close to Christchurch. Meet at the Shell service station at 8am. This is fun as well as instructional - come and do it!	Grade: Training Closes: 3 Dec Map: M35 Approx: \$10
Saturday 5 December.	Leader: Philip Tree 942-7670
<b>Sugarloaf.</b> The Ashburton Lakes area, of which Lake Heron is one of the four lakes, is possibly one of the most beautiful places for tramping in the whole of Canterbury - Lake Heron itself, the snow-covered Arrowsmiths in the background, the Old Man and Taylor ranges to the east with, the mighty Rakaia joining forces with the Wilberforce on the other side ... Sugarloaf is an unusual little bump right on the edge of Lake Heron, 1238m high (about 550m height gain). It gets the ascent over pretty efficiently though (read "it's pretty steep") and then you can sit on the top for well-earned lunch, scanning the water far below for the endangered southern crested grebes which calls Lake Heron home.	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 3 Dec Map: J35 Approx: \$25
Weekend 5-6 December.	Leader: Liz Tanner 420-1148 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au
<b>Kaikoura Holiday Home.</b> 2 night stay, leave town Friday night. Saturday - Otematura Scenic Reserve, Goose Bay & Omihi Lookout track. Sunday - 1/2 day to Lake Rotoroa. House accomodation \$20 each	Grade: Easy Closes: 26 Nov Map: O31 O32 Approx: \$30 + Accom
Weekend 5-6 December.	Leader: Malcolm Carr 960-5281 malcolmcarr@clear.net.nz
<b>Lake Christabel.</b> Easy beech forest tramping on day 1, but quite a long way in to the hut at the head of the Lake. The route out on day 2 is via the poled route up and over the tops to Rough Creek, which has a reasonably good track down to the Lewis Pass Rd near the Maruia Hotel.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 26 Nov Map: L31 Approx: \$40

Sunday 6 December. (early start - contact leader)		Leader: Laurayne Robb 980-8584	
<p><b>Mt Catherine.</b> Mt Catherine is a superb peak overlooking Lake Heron in the Clent Hills area. We'll access via a 4WD road and cross the flats then ascend the south west ridge - about 1000m sustained climb, some of it fairly steep, tussock at first and then rock - to get to the commanding summit of Mt Catherine (2085m). Check out the views of the Arrowsmiths in the distance and plan your next adventure! With a good group we can make a loop by descending the rocky slopes to the south over 2045, 2039 etc. Mostly red sandstone, it's bare, open and starkly beautiful - a good achievement for a moderate trumper who is happy with a bit of scrambling and a 24 km day (estimated up to around 9 hours). Early start - makes sure you contact the leader.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 Dec Map: J35 Approx: \$25	
Saturday 12 December.		Leader: Janet Spittlehouse 981 1944 jkspittlehouse@hotmail.com	
<p><b>Mt Horrible.</b> Did you know that there are six Mt Horribles in the South Island? It does not say a lot for the earlier settler experiences does it? This one is of course our very own Horrible, right next to Mt Misery. Don't be put off - this is a great easy-moderate trip with views from the top (1254m) over the Waimak towards the Hawdon, Sudden Valley and the Polar Range. Depending on the route, there will be 650 - 700m of height gain and 10-12 k of tramping.</p>		Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 10 Dec Map: K34 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 12-13 December.		Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196 steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz	
<p><b>Mt Greenlaw or Mt Davey.</b> Here's a couple of peaks that have been on my "some day" list for a long while. Weather dependent trip, destination may turn into rock climbing at Mt Somers Pinnacles Hut or MTB on Banks Peninsula if its Nor West.</p>		Grade: Hard Closes: 3 Dec Map: K33 K34 Approx: \$30	
Weekend 12-13 December.		Leader: Liz Tanner 422-1148 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au	
<p><b>Peel Forest Base Camp.</b> Cabins at camp ground \$20each. Campsite \$9 per adult. I will lead Fern walk and Denniston bush circuit...lots of neat short and longer bush walks. A chance to do Little or Big Mt Peel at a more relaxed pace. Or head up the Rangitata River for a day trip in areas just a bit further afield than our usual haunts.</p>		Grade: Easy/All Closes: 3 Dec Map: J37 Approx: \$20+Accom	

Weekend 12-13 December.

Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507  
thomas\_matern@yahoo.co.nz

**Welcome Flats Hot Pools.** This will be Thomas' last Hot Pool trip this year and he'll be visiting the largest and most scenic pool of the South Island. It's a long ride in the cars and an even longer walk so we'll meet on Friday 6pm and drive to the start of the Copland Track where we'll pitch up the tents at about midnight. After an early start on Saturday we'll arrive at the hot pools in the early afternoon and spend the rest of the evening soaking. On Sunday we'll walk and drive the same way back and arrive in Chch well before midnight. Even though there is no significant height gain this is still a moderate trip. Please make sure that you've got a suitable level of fitness for this 7hrs walk.

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 3 Dec  
Map: H36  
Approx: \$65

Sunday 13 December.  
(7 am start, Church Corner)

Leader: Doug Forster 337-5453  
doug@forster.net.nz

**Pyramid.** An adventurous moderate trip with all the prerequisites for a classic CTC tramp - wet feet (you start by crossing the Hawdon), a little scrambling around the top, and a bit of scree or bush-bashing. The Pyramid (1608m) is a sustained steep climb of about 1000m on an old ridge track overlooking Hawdon and Sudden Valley confluence. Once out of the bush and onto the rocky ridge you'll have a commanding view of Waimakariri Basin and surrounding peaks. There are a couple of descent options - to the west through the bush to the Hawdon Valley, or to the east to return Sudden Valley Stream (even wetter feet . . .). Note 7 am start Church Corner - contact leader.

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 10 Dec  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$25

Saturday 19 December.

Leader: Adrian Sullivan 03 3100 607

**Peveril Peak.** A voyage of exploration and discovery - Peveril Peak (1755m) sits on the true left of the Poulter, almost opposite the Binser Saddle track, and looks a really appealing place to go but even Dave Henson can't recall a trip there. We'll need permission for some of the access but there are a few different options we can use. Come along and join this trip to tame an unclimbed peak. ("Peveril of the Peak", a 5-volume novel of romance, religion and civil-war politics by Walter Scott (1771-1832), even more hugely complicated and rambling than a CTC committee meeting, is not required reading!)

Grade: Moderate+  
Closes: 17 Dec  
Map: L34  
Approx: \$25

Weekend 19-20 December.	Leader: Antony White 021 0497 893 phoenixantony@gmail.com
<b>3 Creeks Hut.</b> Starting at Sharplin Falls and following the Mt Somers track through to Woolshed Creek Hut, this trip now turns to the north and follows up Woolshed Creek to its head. Cross over Peache Saddle and descend to the hut (or camp on the tops if weather permits). Cross over Mt Winterslow to drop back down to the cars at Sharplin Falls, to be soon followed by icecreams at the Stavely store.	Grade: Moderate to ModHard Closes: 10 Dec Map: K36 Approx: \$25
Long Weekend 25-27 December. Or maybe 31 Dec - 2 January?	Leader: Liz Tanner 420-1148
<b>Christmas or New Year at Arthurs Pass Hut.</b> Christmas or New Year in the Alps (TBA, dependent on interest). If you're interested in either option let Liz know your preferences There might even be some walking done in between the feasting. If you climb up high enough you can even have a white Christmas.	Grade: All Closes: 17 Dec Map: K33 Approx: \$30 + Accom

# Trip Reports

November 2008 - October 2009

## Raoul Island

*Back in August, former club member Gareth Rapley sent us the following report from Raoul Island, where he spent March – August 2008 as a volunteer and November 2008 – October 2009 as a Staff Member. I'm afraid your disorganised club webmaster/editor somehow let it fall through the cracks, rediscovering it only recently when cleaning up his huge email in-tray. Apologies everyone for the lateness ...*



*Home*



*Raoul Caldera*

I now have less than 3 months to go on New Zealand's own sub-tropical paradise. We are surrounded by the country's largest marine reserve and introduced mammalian predators have been eradicated. The main reason why I am here though, is the weed eradication program. This has been running in its current form for over 15 years and is progressing well. We also release daily weather balloons into the stratosphere (all going well) for the Met service, monitor the volcano for GNS and run some extra plant propagation - our endemic Hebe is getting close to

being removed from the critically endangered list.

The main reason most people have heard about Raoul is because of the small, but fatal, volcanic eruption in 2006. Every media report about Raoul still mentions this. I am currently the person who does the weekly monitoring of temperatures, lake levels and the collection of water samples. The monitoring has recently received a great boost with two tsunami sensors, two extra seismometers, lake levelling and temperature sensors and a web cam which can be viewed via the Geonet web site.

Cats and rats were eradicated in 2002. Individual Parakeet sightings were being reported for the next 2 years as they re-colonised Raoul from the outlying islands. They are now hopping and fluttering about all over the island. Various families of Pukekos inhabit the grassed areas and Tuis are numerous. However the most impressive bird populations we get to see are a short trip by inflatable boat, on the Meyer and Herald Islets. Over winter the Kermadec Petrels are nesting in their thousands. Throughout the year they also harbour large breeding populations of Masked Boobies, Red-tailed Tropic Birds, Grey Ternlets, Sooty Terns, Black-winged Petrels and more. Raoul itself has a summer breeding colony of about 5000 Sooty Terns, but the main bird to nest here since the eradication is the Black-winged Petrels.

The vascular plants of Raoul have a high level of endemism, but are generally similar to what you would find back on the mainland. The forests are dominated by Pohutukawa, Mapou, Nikau Palm and Five-finger among others. Because of Raoul's isolation there are a limited number of plants and ferns. This makes it easy to learn every plants name. Hopefully I will expand this new found knowledge when I return to the hills of mainland New Zealand.

The photos above show an aerial view from above the workshop looking out to the nearby islands and an aerial view taken from above the southern rim of the Raoul caldera.

I have a large collection of images which I would like to show to the club when I head south in the first half of 2010. I will get in contact with the social night organiser closer to the time to arrange a date.

-- Gareth Rapley

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25-26 July 2009

## Hurunui River Hot Pool

There was a story even before we set off. The first plan was to go to Otehake Hot Pools, but Steffan met a guy from the University Tramping Club (CUTC) who had told him that they were going to go there as well. None of us seemed to want to participate in a student's party while tramping, so Thomas suggested that we change the destination of the trip to Lake Sumner with Hurunui Hot Pool and we all agreed.

(It was funny to meet the guy from CUTC a week or two later at Temple Basin during a Snow Craft Course at Arthurs Pass. He said that there were 30+ University trampers at Otehake that weekend so it was certainly a wise decision).

One intriguing question was how long the track would be because there are several gates on the 4WD road we were taking. Unfortunately, we were stopped right by the first one near Lake Taylor which meant 18+ km to go according to Thomas GPS. The unclear message about "a bit more" we would understand later...

The track was easy, the weather was absolutely superb, the conversation was relaxed and the scenery was stunning. A while later we reached the Hurunui Hut first and an hour and a half after that the pool itself.

We decided to pitch tents near there because everyone was keen to soak in the pool next morning as well as in the evening. But there was no suitable spot on our side of the Hurunui

River. We faced a river crossing (first in my life), which I was more than happy to avoid due to destination change. Probably some things are inevitable.

Well... it was cold. And all of us were aware that we had to do that again later almost in the dark... and again back to the tents... and again on Sunday morning. But the cold part of the trip was compensated: the sky was covered with stars, the hot bath with candles... Everyone was pleased.

The second day was long (26k back), with a bit of trouble. Later that night I was back home at last, fully exhausted but satisfied.

Thanks guys! This was a memorable trip!

Thomas(leader), Dharshie, Steffan, Antony, Elena(scribe)

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9 August 2009

## Mts Cloudsley and Enys

Yes, it's a wee while ago, but it was such a great trip that it deserves being recorded for posterity. We met up in a series of pickups stretching from the Shell Station to Springfield, and optimistically dropped a car at the Castle Hill boulering area carpar before we drove on to Castle Hill village in well-organised convoy. Gear on, introductions, up through the forest to the lower part of the well-named Long Spur ... Trudge up that in the sun, no wind, but a little concerned about what the snow might be like after a recent post-holing experience on Barossa. When we got into the snow proper though, it was perfect – just indescribably perfect – hard so you did not sink in but somehow sticky as well so even at the steepest angles an ice axe seemed like all you needed.

We made good time to the top of Cloudsley (2107m) and naturally decided to extend the trip to Enys as well. There is a slightly demoralising descent and re-ascent in that, but again the snow was just incredible – it was a privilege and a pleasure to be slogging up that last slope to Enys (2194m), feeling like a gecko with magical suction feet. Some of us did use crampons for first part of the descent down Dead Man's Spur (well, the name does encourage an element of caution doesn't it?), but they weren't really necessary even then.

After a few ups and downs on Dead Mans Spur we headed off into Whitewater stream (okay some of us took better routes than others...) and then through the scrub to cross the low ridge into Castle Hill Basin (thanks to generous landowner permission) and eventually through the amazing boulder formations themselves and out to the car park. The drivers headed off to be reunited with their treasured automobiles, the rest of us fluffed around in the car part, and soon we were all ensconced at Joy's in Springfield, congratulating ourselves on a magical day. Many thanks to Richard the leader and everyone on the trip for making it one of the best ever.

Richard Lobb (leader), Ian Dunn, Mike Ny, Adrian Sullivan, Hazel Dickinson, Cecilia Kirk, Brian Richardson, Kees de Jager, Phil Hulme, Cathy Harlow, Jenny Harlow (scribe).

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17-18 October 2009

## Mt St Patrick+San Jago

We met on Saturday morning, to a buzz of atmosphere at the Shell Station on Carlton Mill Corner, as various groups from the tramping club were excited about the trips they will be doing. There was an element of nerves in the air as I waited to meet my fellow trampers. Introductions were soon made and we were off on our way to Hanmer. The weather was very sunny in the car on the way up and we were hopeful that the weather would hold for us for the day.

We pulled up at the base of Tophouse Road. Tents packed in gear shared out we set off. We began to climb – the grade was steep but consistently climbing apart from the odd stop to catch breath and take on some water the going was steady.

As we climbed we could see the weather starting to come in on us. Just before reaching the Amuri Ski field, flakes of snow began to fall and the temperature began to drop. Warm clothing was pulled out and we happily continued on. As we got towards the San Jago summit the conditions began to get worse and a group discussion was had. The decision was made to leave the ridge and to make our way down to a valley as time and conditions were working against us. We began to descend and Thomas, Martin and Valentin were all trying to work out the best way to get off the ridge and down to the valley floor. This was quite challenging and time consuming as the descent was not as easy as it looked from a distance. The scary thing in this section was some of the group was separated and the tussock and native flora very slippery. Fortunately we all re-grouped and stuck together for a very challenging drop down into the valley floor. Finally we could breathe a sigh of relief as by this time the weather was pouring down with rain, we were all happy to be on the valley floor. Maree in particular was quite keen to just camp at the bottom and was encouraged by team member to continue on to find a suitable camping spot. We made our way through tussock, native flora, and thistles and finally on dusk came to camp beside Bullock Stream.

Tents were quickly put up as darkness set in. Dinner was eaten in the pouring rain, and we were all very quick to get into the nice warm space of the tent with dry clothes and warm bags to sleep in. By this stage we had been tramping for 10+ hours and were all very exhausted.

Although we did not make our destination of the Hot Pools the team work and commitment to keep going by all members of our group was fantastic. The encouragement to keep going when you just wanted to stop was brilliant. The following morning we woke to the pouring rain, breakfast was very quickly consumed and the decision was made to exit for the cars vs. making our way to the Hot Pool. Our walk out was very easy going and very short. We were back at the car by 10.30am and were very quick to make our way to the relaxing pools of the Hanmer Thermal Hot Pools.

I think we all did extremely well in the conditions we had.

Today I am resting with shingle burn on my bum, muscles that are screaming and cuts and bruises on legs; I do have to say this was a very enjoyable experience, with some fantastic people.

Exhibitionists: Thomas(leader), Martin, Valentin & Maree (scribe)

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## External Events

**NZAC Mt Aspiring/Tititea Photographic Competition:** The NZ Alpine Club is currently running a Photographic Competition to celebrate the centenary of the first ascent of Mt Aspiring/Tititea on November 23rd 1909. The competition is open to everyone, not just NZAC members, and is limited to one photo per person. The photo can be a landscape, an aerial shot, or can include an outdoor pursuit involving Mt Aspiring / Tititea, like climbing, skiing or parapenting. First prize is a *Mainly Tramping* voucher for \$500 worth of climbing equipment, second prize is a DOC (Wanaka) book voucher worth \$50 and third prize is the NZAC's new updated "Mt Aspiring Region: Guide for Mountaineers" book, worth \$25. Entries close Tuesday, 17th November. For details on the contest rules and how to enter, see <http://alpineclub.org.nz/default/383-0>

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# Classifieds

**For Sale: Macpac Solstice 4-season Down Sleeping Bag.** Length: 1.8 metres plus hood. Excellent condition – as new - hardly used. Extremely warm bag but surplus to requirements as owner already has a 4 season bag. \$300 o.n.o. Ph Julie Provan (03) 376 6144.

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## More about the CTC

### Committee:

<b>President</b>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<b>Club Captain</b>	Adrian Busby	325-5001
<b>Vice-president</b>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<b>Day-trip Organiser</b>	Jenny Harlow	349-2280
<b>Secretary</b>	Cathy Harlow	349-2280	<b>Weekend-trip Organiser</b>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196
<b>Treasurer</b>	Malcolm Carr	960-5281	<b>Hut Convenor</b>	David Watson	981-7929
<b>Editor/Webmaster</b>	Richard Lobb	351-2344	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	Ken Brown	359-2000
<b>Social convenor</b>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<b>New Members Rep</b>	Susan Pearson	337-4914

**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 Dave Watson 981-7929; or if he's away, Rex Vink 352-5329; or if they're both away, Andrew Wrapson 980-6006. Hut fees are \$10 member, \$10 member's partner, \$20 non-member, \$5 kids under 12. If you find any problems or maintenance required, please tell Dave.

**Equipment Hire:** The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Ken Brown 359-2000. 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	\$2 per day
Personal locator beacons	Free

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Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor (editor@ctc.org.nz) by Sunday, 22 November 2009 – Thanks.