



# 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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*Rahu Peak, November 2010*

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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Don't miss  
this one!

# News

**New Members Welcome:** We welcome two new members to the club this month: Kevin Knight and Cristina Zablan. Please accept the club's warm welcome to you all.

**Resignation:** Peter Mortlock has resigned from club committee duties to give himself more time for family and other commitments. Thanks, Peter, for all your input over several years of committee service.

## Tramper of the Month: Liz Tanner

<p><i>How old are you?</i></p>	<p>You guess and I will shout you out for a meal if you get it right.....</p>	
<p><i>What are you passionate about?</i></p>	<p>The environment and seeing people happy...there's a lot of sad faces out there...oops and having FUN.</p>	
<p><i>What have you learnt in life?</i></p>	<p>If you want something done ask a busy person...you can't please everyone...and what we worry most about usually is not that important.</p>	
<p><i>What's your favourite day trip?</i></p>	<p>Hard to say as I have loved most and endured one or two...most likely Monument to Hilltop as I was off exploring and got a ride back to my car very easily.</p>	
<p><i>What's your favourite weekend trip?</i></p>	<p>As I don't like carrying heavy packs base camps suit me best. Every base camp has been so good... it is hard coming home again.</p>	
<p><i>Where did you grow up?</i></p>	<p>In Auckland on a mountain there, but we were regularly in the South Island.</p>	
<p><i>Why did you join the CTC?</i></p>	<p>Susan was very prompt in getting back to me and very tactful in saying how Ozzies can't usually handle NZ grades of fitness....oh yeah!!!...The weekly meetings were a real plus and the variety of trips each weekend kept me busy.</p>	

*Liz and someone who probably wishes to remain nameless (right, Andrew?)*

## 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.

<p>Saturday 27 November.</p>	<p>Leader: Antony White 381-5993 phoenixantony@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Sudden Valley.</b> Sudden Valley is the home of a lovely little river, Sudden Valley Stream, which provides a very good summer water-and-rock-hopping trip. After crossing the Hawdon River we start up the Stream itself - multiple crossings back and forth, scrambling round a few easy bouldery sections, passing lovely pools and splashing rapids, a few diversions into the bush . . . There is a short steep climb of a couple of hundred metres to negotiate the Barrier Falls gorge and then we descend again and soon afterwards emerge into the more open river flats and stunning scenery of upper valley with Mts Wilson and Scott above us. We head to the new Sudden Valley Biv for lunch and then travel back the same way.</p>	<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 25 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$25</p>
<p>Saturday 27 November. (Early start - contact leader.)</p>	<p>Leader: David Sutton 348 5998 davidsutton@clear.net.nz</p>
<p><b>Travers-Trovatore.</b> Travers Peak (1724m) is just above the Lewis Pass Highway, accessed from the west via a nice bush track. From Travers we can descend a couple of hundred metres into a tarn basin, up the other side and onto Trovatore (1737m). From Trovatore we hope to head north-east along the ridge to pick up a nice descent into a stream. That takes us down to the Maruia and thus we can pick up the St James Walkway back to the Lewis Pass carpark. Height gain about 1300m+. If there is still snow, snow skills and ice axe and crampons are a must. Early start - contact leader.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 25 Nov Map: M31 Approx: \$30</p>
<p>Weekend 27-28 November.</p>	<p>Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz</p>
<p><b>Edwards Hut, Taruahuna Pass.</b> Arthur's Pass area. We usually spend Friday night at the club hut. Start early on Saturday and reach Edwards Hut around lunchtime. It's only about 7 km but the track does climb up and down past two gorges so it will take 3 to 5 hours to the hut. Side trip to Taruahuna Pass and see why Falling Mountain got its name.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 18 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$45</p>

Tuesday 30 November. Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045

**Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).** No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge in January. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).

Grade: Moderate+  
Closes: 25 Nov  
Map:  
Approx:

Thursday 2 December.

Club Night

**Annual BBQ \* note venue change \*.** This year we are going to a much more central location (sorry Steve B). It's Vernon Park at the end of Hillsborough Tce, St Martins. Aim to arrive after 6:30pm. BBQs will be arranged. Bring all your own food and liquid + any sports gear for soccer or cricket. I will on purpose not say anything about water pistols.

Saturday 4 December.  
(Meet 7am Church Corner.)

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

**Mt Barron.** Mt Barron is a 1730m peak above Otira, about 1500m of ascent altogether, with some scrambly rocky (probably snow/rock) sections. We'll do this as a round trip - DOC are alleged to have done some track work up there which should make finding the return route a bit easier! Ice axe and crampons and the ability to use them essential. Early start 7 am at Church Corner. Note: This trip may change to Sunday if the weather is better then - please contact the leader to check.

Grade: ModHard  
Closes: 2 Dec  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$30

Saturday 4 December.

Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014  
Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Pigeon Bay.** Pigeon Bay is a cliff-top walkway on the Peninsula. It starts on the shore at Pigeon Bay Domain and then climbs up to a 4wd track which takes you out to Wakaroa Point (7-8k one-way). From here you can see the full sweep of headlands around from Christchurch to the Kaikouras. Return the same way. Pigeon Bay was settled before Christchurch was founded, by the Hay and Sinclair families. Driving down Pigeon Bay Road you pass the Hay Scenic Reserve - small, but - as Mark Pickering comments - notable for having one of the last stands of lowland podocarp forest left on the Peninsula.

Grade: Easy  
Closes: 2 Dec  
Map: N36  
Approx: \$20

Weekend 4-5 December.	Leader: Ken Brown 359-2000 kenneth.brown@canterbury.ac.nz
<b>Avalanche Peak - Crow Hut.</b> Climb up to Avalanche Peak before descending a long shingle scree into the Crow Valley. Meet the easy group for the night at the Crow hut before returning via the Waimak.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 25 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$35
Weekend 4-5 December.	Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006 andrewwrapson@yahoo.co.nz
<b>Crow Valley - Crow Hut.</b> Arthur's Pass area. The Crow Valley is one range west of Arthur's Pass village. Starting at Klondyke Corner, travel starts on the gravel riverbed, usually involving a river crossing or two (sometimes not at all if the river is low) but soon becomes grassy river flats. Some more river travel in the lower Crow and then pick up the track to the Crow hut. A short walk past the hut gives views of the south face of Mt Rolleston and the Crow glacier icefall. Meet the moderate group at the hut and walk out the same way on Sunday.	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 25 Nov Map: K33 Approx: \$35
Sunday 5 December.	Leader: Joy Schroeder 351-4655
<b>Kaituna, Packhorse Hut, maybe 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 was 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).	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 2 Dec Map: M36 Approx: \$10
Tuesday 7 December.	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
<b>Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).</b> No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge in January. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).	Grade: Moderate Closes: 2 Dec Map: Approx:

Thursday 9 December.

Club Night

**Come along and learn about walking in the UK + some risk management advice.** Below is some of the email from Audrey Watson. I plan for her to do a talk for us.

"I work for the Ramblers, the biggest walking charity in the UK as a Led Walks officer. I am responsible for advising our 500+ groups on recruiting and training volunteer walk leaders and generally advising and supporting our 28000 Led Walks each year on all aspects including risk management and training.

"I recently won a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship to travel to NZ in November/December to compare how walking/tramping groups operate and are organised in NZ as compared with the UK."

Saturday 11 December.

Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360

**Craigieburn Valley and Camp Saddle.** A varied round trip in the Craigieburns with a bit of something for everyone. We'll go up from the Cave Stream Reserve, over Lyndon Saddle and traverse above the Craigieburn Valley on a good track until we are below Camp Saddle. Then it's a short but steepish climb onto the saddle (1480m) for a rest to admire the views out over the Craigieburns and down towards the the Broken River Ski area. From the saddle we do a lovely promenade east along the top of a spur to point 1525 and then a scree slope down to meet the Craigieburn Valley track again at Lyndon Saddle and hence back to the cars again. 700m-800m height gain and about 13-14km round trip depending on the exact route.

Grade: Easy/Mod  
Closes: 20 Jan  
Map: K34  
Approx: \$25

Weekend 11-12 December.

Leader: Gareth Gilbert 981-1737  
gilbert.gareth@gmail.com

**Lucretia Hut.** Gareth wants to have a look at what he missed during the Lucretia Tarns trip this year. The plan is to walk up the Nina River and the Lucretia Stream to the very basic Lucretia Hut, drop the packs and head further up the valley towards Lucretia Tarns. Spend the night camping next to the Hut and head home on Sunday.

Grade: Easy/Mod  
Closes: 2 Dec  
Map: M31  
Approx: \$30

Weekend 11-12 December.

Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196  
steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz

**Mt Sibbald.** General idea is to drive in to Red Stag Hut then wander up to a high camp on Sat, climb Sunday morning and cruise on home. Alpinists who don't like carrying gear up hills and want to do a "one day rush" may also be considered. Trip weather dependant.

Grade: Hard/Climbing  
Closes: 2 Dec  
Map: I36  
Approx: \$50

Sunday 12 December.	Leader: Kerrie Maynard & Scott Fowler 386-2850
<b>Mt Ida.</b> Mt Ida (1695m) is a good moderate trip up the Harper Road in the lovely Lake Coleridge area. It is not too long and with about 1100m height gain, might be a nice option for fit easy-moderate trampers stepping up to moderate trips. As an added attraction, there's a wonderful scree-run down and an opportunity for a swim at the bottom if it's a hot day. In pre-Greek myth, Ida is associated with the Mother Goddess. In CTC myth, Ida was the location of the famous vacuum cleaner trip (see what is possibly the shortest and most laconic trip report ever, November 24, 1996).	Grade: Moderate Closes: 9 Dec Map: K34 Approx: \$30

Tuesday 14 December.	Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
<b>Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).</b> No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge in January. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).	Grade: Moderate Closes: 9 Dec Map: Approx:

Thursday 16 December.	Club Night
<b>End of year break up..</b> End of year social break up (formerly "The Plate and Crate"). This is the annual potluck dinner and the final social event for the year. Doors open at 6pm and eating begins at 6:30pm. Bring plenty of food to share. You will need your own eating tools (plate and cutlery) plus liquid refreshments. This is a great social night to catch up with friends as well as club members who do not usually come to club nights. Venue: the usual club night meeting room (Hort. Centre).	

Saturday 18 December. (Could be Saturday or Sunday; early start)	Leader: Clive Marsh 325-6253 clive.marsh@clear.net.nz
<b>Something challenging in the Otira area..</b> Options include Mt Alexander in a day (involves crossing the Taramakau and then up from 250m to 1958m and back again), or something interesting around Mt Stewart. Could go Saturday or Sunday. Please make sure you talk to the leader for this trip and note - early start (and make sure you bring a head torch).	Grade: ModHard Closes: 16 Dec Map: K33 Approx: \$30

Weekend 18-19 December.	Leader: Thomas Matern 385-3507 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
<b>Mt Peel Basecamp.</b> On Saturday we'll do Little Mt Peel at a relaxed pace and on Sunday we'll do some easier shorter walks, such as Fern walk and Denniston bush circuit...there are lots of neat short and longer bush walks to choose from. Cabins at camp ground \$20 each. Campsite \$9 per adult.	Grade: Easy/All/Social Closes: 9 Dec Map: J37 Approx: \$20+Accom

Sunday 19 December.	Leader: Janet Spittlehouse 981-1944 jkspittlehouse@hotmail.com
<b>Knowles Tops.</b> Another trip we could not do in the winter ... We start at Glentui and ascend to Knowles Top itself (about 840m) using a mixture of farm track and bush tracks, then follow the ridge to the perfect lunch-spot overlooking the Ashley Gorge picnic area. We drop down from the ridge towards the gorge and then explore the gully next to Ashley gorge, where a 12m waterfall is alleged to be hiding ...	Grade: Easy+ Closes: 16 Dec Map: L34 Approx: \$15

Sunday 19 December. (Could change to Saturday and could be early start - contact leader)	Leader: Calum McIntosh 376-6133
<b>Maukuratawhai.</b> Maukuratawhai (sometimes irreverently called Mt Muckaroundawhile to help you remember the name) is an interesting 1615m peak just across the Clarence River from where you descend from Jacks Pass. We will climb up the long SW ridge (about 800m height gain) and if time and conditions permit we will traverse around to pt 1575 and descend its south ridge to circle back to the starting point. The trip starts with a cold ford of the Clarence so if you bring some spare sneakers you'll be able to change into dry boots on the other side. This trip may change to Saturday, depending on the weather, and there could be an early start - check with the leader.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 16 Dec Map: N31 N32 Approx: \$30

Thursday 23 December.	Club Night
<b>No club tonight.</b> Hey it's almost Christmas Eve!	

Friday 24 December.	Club Night
<b>Christmas Eve Meal and social night.</b> A booking has been made at Sampan House, 617 Colombo Street (near the corner of Tuam Street), close to the city centre. Mains are around the \$15 mark, with many smaller meals for less. I'm certainly looking forward to the Santa satay, followed by Rudolf rice with elf dumplings. Contact Jim Western 384 8950, or put your name down on the list so he can get an idea of numbers.	

Monday 27 December.	Leader: Bryce Williamson 351-6366 Bryce.Williamson@canterbury.ac.nz
<b>Mt Temple.</b> We start on the very friendly zig-zag path up to the Temple Basin Ski area. At this time of year the basin can be a riot of lovely Mt Cook lilies. Above ski club huts, the climb is a bit steeper, leading to the final scree up to Temple Col (1774m) and the ridge between Phipps and Blimit. From the Col we start the final rocky scramble up to Mt Temple itself (1913m, a bit over 1000m up from the highway). Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 23 Dec Map: K33 Approx: \$25

Wednesday 29 December.

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

**Rabbit Hill.** Rabbits were introduced to New Zealand in the 1830's for food, the rabbit skin industry, and sport. Interestingly, it took a few years and some repeat releases by those determined but sadly myopic rabbit-o-phile landholders before the rabbits took to the idea. Then, suddenly, they began to spread and increase in numbers ... Rabbit Hill (1198m) is a nice little bump in the Porters Pass area. We'll be going up from the road in the Porters Pass area and trotting along the tops to Rabbit Hill itself. Return options include a car shuffle and descending to the Lake Lyndon road. Approx 500m height gain overall and about 11 km (partly tracked, part tussock hillside). Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.

Grade: Easy+  
Closes: 23 Dec  
Map: K35  
Approx: \$20

Thursday 30 December.

Club Night

**No club tonight.** No club as it's the holidays.

Multi day trip 1-6 January.

Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931

**New Years trip: Kahurangi or Nelson Lakes.** Join Bernhard on a 4-6 day trip into the Nelson Lakes area. Starting at Lake Tennyson the plan is to walk up the Clarence River over Clarence Pass into the Rainbow River, over Rainbow Pass into the Upper Travers and then back over Maling Pass to the car. Talk to Bernhard about more details. There will be an alternative trip if the weather forecast is too bad.

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 23 Dec  
Map: M30 N30 M31  
Approx: \$TBA

Tuesday 4 January.

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

**Foggy Peak.** Foggy Peak is just beside Porters Pass - yes - let the car do most of the hard work, start from around 940m and have a relatively easy trip up the stony slopes of Foggy Peak (1741m, i.e. about 800m height gain) for lunch. You'll be able to look on towards Castle Hill Peak, around to Torlesse, across to the Craigieburns . . . it's totally misnamed of course and there is never any fog or even a suspicion of heavy mist here. Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.

Grade: EasyMod  
Closes: 30 Dec  
Map: K35  
Approx: \$20

Thursday 6 January.

Club Night

**No club tonight.** Hey it's still the holidays so no club.

Saturday 8 January. (Note meeting time and place)	Leader: David Henson 942-3954 david-henson@paradise.net.nz
<b>Lyttelton to Cashmere via Whakaraupo Track and Crater Rim Walkway.</b> Meet at 9 am at platform D2, Colombo Street opposite Ballantynes to catch the 9.12 am no. 28 bus to Lyttelton. From Lyttelton we ascend through the bluffs above the town on the Whakaraupo Track to meet the Crater Rim Walk. We follow along the summit of the Port Hills for some distance and aim for an early afternoon stop at the new Sign of the Kiwi and then walk down through Victoria Park to the Sign of the Takahe, where buses depart back to the city every half an hour (routes 10 and 14). All this for only the cost of a return bus fare (free if you have a senior gold card!). Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.	Grade: Easy Closes: 6 Jan Map: M36 Approx: \$5
Weekend 8-9 January.	Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au
<b>Arthur's Pass Base Camp.</b> This will be a chance to climb up Avalanche peak without all the fanatical runners around. Other options to be discussed. We will be staying in the luxurious comfort of the club hut, with a gourmet meal on Saturday night.	Grade: Easy/All Closes: 30 Dec Map: K33 Approx: \$30 + Accom
Weekend 8-9 January.	Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196 steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz
<b>Rahu River Circuit.</b> Leave town Sat morn. Short 4km valley with tarns above the bushline where we will camp. One way via the valley track, the other via the ridgeline track which has tops travel and possibly some scrambling sections. Option for people to go in & out via the easier valley track.	Grade: ModHard Closes: 30 Dec Map: L31 Approx: \$40
Sunday 9 January.	Leader: Jim Western 384-8950 jimwestern@xtra.co.nz
<b>Bob's Biv.</b> Bob's Biv is a cute little hunting hut in the Mt Thomas area, accessed from the Wooded Gully picnic area. We'll probably go up the Wooded Gully track itself, through the mountain beech to the open ridge west of Mt Thomas itself (about 600m height gain). From there we continue to follow the crest of the ridge north west over points 1043, 953 and 1046 (about 300m more accumulated 'up') to a bush saddle and the biv itself (officially called 'Bob's Camp Bivvy' by DOC). It is a reasonably long day - about 9 k each way - making it an excellent post-Christmas New-Years-Resolution-to-do-more-tramping trip. Make sure you contact the leader directly to put your name down because he will have the list.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 6 Jan Map: M34 Approx: \$20

Tuesday 11 January.		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
<p><b>Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).</b> No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge at the end of this month. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).</p>		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 6 Jan
		Map:	Approx:
Thursday 13 January.		Club Night	
<p><b>Social night.</b> Its time to catch up with all the Christmas trips so we will have lots of verbal trip reports then social time afterwards.</p>			
Saturday 15 January.		Leader: Kerrie Maynard and Scott Fowler 386-2850	
<p><b>Isobel.</b> Mt Isobel (1324m) lies on the open poled tops between Jacks Pass to the west and Jollies Pass to the east. We go up via the delightful Dog Stream track: there is about 850m of height gain, some of it steep but on a marked route, through bush and then tussock slopes to the tops. This trip is on the gentler side of moderate and would make a great step-up for trampers looking to see how they go on something a bit harder than easy moderate - or a well-earned less demanding day for people recovering from those hard-out Christmas trips ...</p>		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 13 Jan
		Map: N32	Approx: \$30
Saturday 15 January. (May change to Sunday )		Leader: Liz Tanner 0211400531 lizjtanner@yahoo.com.au	
<p><b>Port Levy Saddle to Hilltop.</b> Enjoy an easy moderate day out on the Banks Peninsula. This tramp will run from the saddle above Port Levy along the tops to Mount Sinclair (841m), with views out over Pigeon Bay on one side and Akaroa on the other. Mount Sinclair was named for the Sinclair family who settled in Pigeon Bay in the 1840s, before Christchurch was even founded. We are hoping to be able to do a carshuffle or even cross-over and carry on through to Hilltop. Note that this trip may change to Sunday if the weather is better that day - make sure you contact the leader.</p>		Grade: EasyMod	Closes: 13 Jan
		Map: N36	Approx: \$20
Weekend 15-16 January.		Leader: Antony White 381-5993 phoenixantony@gmail.com	
<p><b>Mueller Hut.</b> Drive down to Mt Cook on Friday night and stay at a camp ground at the start of the track. There is a leisurely walk up to the hut on Saturday, with options for venturing further if wanted. Walk back down on Sunday morning and back to Christchurch in the late afternoon.</p>		Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)	Closes: 6 Jan
		Map: H36	Approx: \$50+Accom

Sunday 16 January. Leader: Bruce James 332-3473  
Bruce.James@ihug.co.nz

**Mt Hamilton to Mt Wall.** Why stop at Hamilton Peak? A bit of a variation on the classic Craigieburn ascent, this tramp will climb via Camp Saddle to Hamilton Peak (1822m) above the Broken River ski field and then carry on with a scrambly traverse of the rocky ridge-top to Mt Wall (1874m). Descending from Mt Wall, we'll use one of the best shingle slides in the area to come right down almost to the ski field road close to the cars again. A more adventurous moderate trip with the usual impressive Craigieburn scenery and views.

Grade: Moderate+  
Closes: 13 Jan  
Map: K34  
Approx: \$25

Tuesday 18 January. Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045

**Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).** No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge at the end of this month. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 13 Jan  
Map:  
Approx:

Thursday 20 January. Club Night

**A small taste of the USA.** For those who like overseas travel and the "great outdoors". In August 2010 Tim visited Ketchikan in the southern part of the Alaskan 'pan handle'. This is the start of the internal passage for cruise ships up the west coast. A short stopover was made in Hawaii on the way home. Alaska is the biggest state of USA at 656,425 square miles; while Hawaii is the 43rd at 11,000 square miles. But President Obama went to school in Hawaii. Both have good tramping country.

Saturday 22 January. Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360

**Flock Hill Escarpment.** Come and explore the amazing rocky escarpment where the first of the Chronicles of Narnia was filmed. We'll start from Cave Stream, walk up to the escarpment and wander around through the tangle of rock formations. Approx 300m height gain overall, mostly untracked in tussocky terrain, about 10km. Entrance through a wardrobe is entirely optional.

Grade: Easy  
Closes: 9 Dec  
Map: K34  
Approx: \$25

Saturday 22 January.		Leader: Easy Erik Norder 980-8022 erik@tba.co.nz	
<p><b>Scenery Nook.</b> Scenery Nook is a little cove out on Timu Timu head (Banks Peninsula). It's only a shortish stroll so what's so special? Just come and see one of the most stunning sea cliffs in New Zealand, curving round to make the cove into an amazing amphitheatre of layered rock in earthy hues of red, pink and purple and a huge dyke - the cross-sectional side of a cone of harder grey volcanic rock - exposed to rise straight up through the multi-coloured strata. It is an area of Significant Natural Value according to ECan. If you have never seen it before, now's your chance . . . Bring your togs - we might get to have a swim if the seals let us. And bring your camera - it's a great trip for photographers.</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 20 Jan Map: N36 N37 Approx: \$25	
Weekend 22-23 January.		Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686 atromans@gmail.com	
<p><b>Avoca Valley.</b> The head of the Avoca is a great valley, well worth a visit. There is a great little A frame hut and, with at least 5 options of getting in or out of the valley, plenty of scope for a round trip. The plan at the moment is to go in over Sphinx saddle and out over Jordan saddle but Gizeh Col is also an option. Sphinx and Gizeh Col both access the Anti crow and Jordan Saddle goes into the Jordan Stream.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 13 Jan Map: K34 Approx: \$35	
Sunday 23 January. (Could change to Saturday, and could be early start)		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz	
<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). With a sufficiently keen 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 with a bit of scrambling and a 24 km day (estimated up to around 9 hours). Note that this trip could change to Saturday if the weather is better then. Also, could be early start. Make sure you contact the leader.</p>		Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 20 Jan Map: J35 Approx: \$25	

Tuesday 25 January.		Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045	
<p><b>Get fit for tramping (and the Mt Somers Challenge...).</b> No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. Get fit for summer and the Mt Somers Challenge on Sunday. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).</p>		Grade: Moderate	Closes: 20 Jan
		Map:	Approx:

Thursday 27 January.		Club Night	
<p><b>Newsletter folding night.</b> After we have dealt to the newsletter we will have some social time.</p>			

Saturday 29 January.		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Porter River.</b> A wet-feet special. We start at the Porter River bridge from the main highway and proceed down river past Ghost Stream to the James river confluence, then through a gorgey bit down combined rivers to the Broken River confluence below Gorge Hill. From there we go up to Cave Stream and through the Cave (usually a brisk 4 degrees C air temp, but cunningly the leader has ensured the water is pleasantly warmer than the air for a change!). Make sure you bring a torch, leggings and polypro top for the Cave, and something to change into after the trip. Ice-cream after the cave as well - what could be better? If the weather is not the usual Canterbury-summer-hot, we'll move onto dry-foot alternative Plan B, but this trip will be going somewhere, somehow ...</p>		Grade: Easy (water trip)	Closes: 27 Jan
		Map: K34	Approx: \$25

Weekend 29-30 January.		Leader: Catherine Tatarniuk 03 358 0109 ctatarniuk@hotmail.com	
<p><b>Sawcut Gorge.</b> A stunning geological feature - the Sawcut Gorge is a must do summer trip. Only about 5km each way to Isolation Hut via the gorge but the walking is riverbed, not formed track. Options from the hut include climbing up to Ben More, Isolation Hill, or visiting the "Zoo". We'll do a communal "Tramping Potluck Dinner" for Saturday night, where for those wanting to express their hut-kitchen culinary skills they get the chance. Please PLEASE let the leader know what you are going to bring, so that we don't end up eating a tiny ration of main course, and 10 mega-rich chocolate desserts! We'll leave 7am Saturday morning, as it's about a 4 hour drive.</p>		Grade: Easy+	Closes: 20 Jan
		Map: P29	Approx: \$45

Sunday 30 January.	Leader: Susan Pearson and Jenny Harlow 337-4914 susan@toniq.co.nz
<b>Mt Somers 'Round the Mountain' Challenge.</b> Forget the Coast to Coast, Avalanche Peak, the Olympics, garden parties at Buckingham Palace... forget even Alan's birthday party. This has to be the premier event of 2011. Come along and try the 'Round the Mountain' challenge on 30 January - there are options for all. See the back page of the newsletter for details. Further details including maps, terrain profile, water stops etc will be made available via the club website <a href="http://www.ctc.org.nz">www.ctc.org.nz</a>	Grade: Moderate Hard Challenge plus Easier options Closes: 27 Jan Map: K36 Approx: \$20

Thursday 3 February.	Club Night
<b>Dolomites, Swiss Alps, Tour du Mt Blanc.</b> These are some of the best mountain areas that Europe has to offer. In mid-2010, Bruce James joined the FMC Travel Club trip to this area for some tramping somewhat different from that at home. Come along for a slide show and his account of the 'wandern' experience.	

Saturday 5 February. (Could be early start - contact leader)	Leader: Alastair Brown 343-5111 alastairbrown@yahoo.com.au
<b>Mt Potts.</b> Take your choice of literary connections for this stunning area in the Upper Rangitata - Samuel Butler's Erewhon or Lord of the Rings. Mt Potts is an impressive peak (2184m) above the Havelock/Clyde confluence. It's a long day with about 1600m height gain, so a good workout is guaranteed. Could be early start - make sure you contact the leader	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 3 Feb Map: J35 Approx: \$25

Saturday 5 February. (Note - numbers are limited.)	Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<b>River Crossing Course.</b> Book in to be in! Once again the club is running the ever-popular river crossing course. Space will be strictly limited to 14 persons so put your name down quickly. A river crossing course is really a 'must' for all trampers regardless of how hard or not-hard you tramp: with our varied climate and number of rivers sooner or later all trampers will have to face that decision to cross or not to cross.  Participants will need a complete change of clothes (to put on at the end) and should have lace-on boots (sandals or gumboots are unsuitable). You will need a weekend-size pack with a bomb-proof waterproof pack liner. The pack should have the bulk and weight of a weekend size pack. Don't put your usual tramping gear but fill it with blankets, bed quilts, old clothes etc and weight as necessary (old plastic soft drink bottles filled with water, rocks or bricks - very easy to obtain now - if necessary).  The course will be held at the Waimakariri or - if that is flooded - the Ashley River. It will finish around 1pm. Meet at the usual place and time for a CTC trip (8 am at the Shell Service Station).	Grade: Training Closes: 3 Feb Map: M35 Approx: \$5

Weekend 5-6 February.

Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686  
atromans@gmail.com

**Princess Bath.** Perched high on the side of Mt Princess, hidden until you pop up through the bluffs is the surprisingly large "Princess Bath". From the carpark at Lake Tennyson there is a couple of k's wander along the lakeside to warm up then a 500m puff to the top of Mt McCabe for a rest break with a fine view up the Clarence and down the Waiau. More puffing and maybe a scramble or two then drop down to the camp. Climb to the top of Mt Princess Sat afternoon or Sun morning then hurry back to Hanmer for a quick hot pool before heading home.

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 27 Jan  
Map: M30 M31  
Approx: \$35

Sunday 6 February.

Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014  
Tecbruce@gmail.com

**Mt Selfe.** Mt Selfe (856m) is a nice little bump just north of the Lake Sumner road. Mostly on farm tracks, in rolling tussock country, this is a nice little trip with about 500m of height gain and about 8k of tramping. Mt Selfe is named after Henry Selfe, a London lawyer who was an active member of the Canterbury Association and became honorary London agent for the Provincial Government. Selfe owned land near the Heathcote and accompanied Lord Lyttelton on his trip to Canterbury in 1867–68.

Grade: EasyMod  
Closes: 3 Feb  
Map: M33  
Approx: \$20

Tuesday 8 February.

Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045

**Stay fit for tramping.** Keep fit for summer. No list - just turn up in the Mt Vernon car park at 6:00pm sharp. We take different routes depending on how we feel on the evening, but they all involve some vigorous brisk climbing towards the summit road. The Mount Vernon Valley Track carpark entrance is found by going to the far end of Hillsborough Tce, continuing uphill along the Crescent for about 40m and then turning left at the gate. Note - do not park in the carpark but park in Hillsborough Tce (we return to the carpark after the gates are locked).

Grade: Moderate  
Closes: 3 Feb  
Map:  
Approx:

Saturday 12 February. (Could be early start - contact leader)		Leader: David Sutton 348 5998 davidsutton@clear.net.nz	
<p><b>Black Hill, Rakaia.</b> This is the Black Hill that overlooks the Rakaia, in the Canterbury foothills. It is a long day and a long way, but well worth it. We leave the cars by the Double Hill road and climb up Glenrock Stream to Turtons Saddle and then continue up the north-west ridge of Black Hill. The summit is 2067m and gives stunning 360 degree views over the Rakaia, the rest of the foothills, etc. From the summit we descend via Donald Hill (500m lower but some of the best views of all) and then back to the cars. The total climb is over 1600m which makes it a moderate+ trip even though there is nothing remotely difficult - you need to be fit and able to keep going . . . There could be an early start and/or a change to Sunday - make sure you've contacted the leader.</p>		Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 10 Feb Map: K35 Approx: \$25	
Saturday 12 February.		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360	
<p><b>Hinewai.</b> Hinewai is a beautiful bird and bush reserve on the eastern side of Banks Peninsula, accessed from the Summit Road above Akaroa. The reserve has a wide range of natives including some original remnant beech and the newer plantings which are really getting established now. When you sit down you can really hear the bird-song all around you. There are plenty of loop options of varying terrain and distance depending on the group so we can get right down to Otanerito Bay and back up to the car park again or do a shorter trip and find more of the waterfalls hidden in the bush . . .</p>		Grade: Easy Closes: 10 Feb Map: N36 N37 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 12-13 February.		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344 richard.lobb@canterbury.ac.nz	
<p><b>Jordan catchment / Black Range.</b> Join Richard on a trip the club has probably not been done as a club trip before. Up Jordan Stream to Jordan Saddle then sidle around the head of the Jordan catchment to a high campsite at tarns just below Pt 1841. On Sunday continue North down a spur to the Waimak track near the confluence with Anti Crow -- great views into the upper Waimak and Crow Valleys all the way down this ridge. Then back out down the Waimak.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 Feb Map: K34 Approx: \$35	
Sunday 13 February.		Leader: Bruce Cameron 338-4014 Tecbruce@gmail.com	
<p><b>Waipara Gorge.</b> Further up the Waipara than Whites Gorge, there is more gorge! Come exploring with Bruce on another wet feet water trip for the summer.</p>		Grade: EasyMod Closes: 10 Feb Map: M34 Approx: \$20	

Weekend 26-27 February.

Leader: Andrew Tromans 379-2686  
atromans@gmail.com

**Mt Davie.** A nice leisurely walk in to Carrington hut before crossing the White river and a steep climb up to the ridge. Stunning 360 degree views across all of Arthurs Pass National Park. A bit of a climb but definitely worth the effort. Ice axe and crampons required. Helmet recommended. Departure time dependent on the weather forecast.

Grade: Hard  
Closes: 17 Feb  
Map: K33  
Approx: \$30

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## Trip Reports

30-31st October 2010

### Mt Haast

Club members allowing themselves to be used as incubators for microbes, virus' and other assorted bugs meant that our numbers had been reduced to three by the time we had reached the bush line below Mt Haast. Its was a pity since it was a perfect day, weather wise and we had stunning 360 degree views. We spent some time on the summit trying to identify the various peaks in the Paparoa and Spencer ranges, Arthur's pass and beyond. The club doesn't visit the Victoria ranges all that often, perhaps because of their reputation for ruggedness and tough going. This is a shame since they are beautiful mountains and the ruggedness is part of their charm. Although on the ridge heading west from Mt Haast, a little less charm would have been welcomed. The ridge goes through a series of deep undulations. You haul yourself up one peak only to be faced with an equally steep drop-off back down to your original altitude before the next steep climb up the next peak with almost the same altitude as the previous one. This can be a little infuriating and more than a little tiring.

We eventually stop on a saddle about halfway on the semi-circular ridgeline leading to Mt Kemp. There is water from the snowmelt and we spend a very pleasant evening cooking dinner amongst the tussock until the sun disappears behind the western hills.

Sunday dawns clear and we are away early. We drop off the ridgeline to the east and travel across a low basin through some tussock and bush before climbing out through a short section of scrub to regain the ridgeline. This manoeuvre brings us under the toughest part of the ridge and probably saves us some hours battling over the rock outcrops. We pass over some very nice tarns on the southern side of the ridge that would have made a very nice campsite had we been quick enough the previous day. The ridgeline eventually enters the bush line before we pick up the spur heading northeast off point 1287. The spur is very broad and a bit hard to follow. At one point we begin to drop off to the northern side towards some bluffs. The change was very gradual and almost imperceptible and we sidle back onto the ridge using our compass to maintain the correct course. As we get nearer the road the vegetation gets thicker and more scrubby. Along with the increased windfall and bush lawyer, this makes the last few hundred meters out to the road a real trial.

Eventually we pop out onto the road. Re-hydration therapy in the Rahu river is followed by ice-cream and milkshake stops at Springs Junction and Culverden. Thanks for a great trip guys.

Dayle, Bruce, Craig and Andrew (Ldr)

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7 November 2010

## Stinging nettle and gorse bash...Orton Bradley

The leader came equipped with two pairs of secateurs with memories of lots of gorse on the track from Packhorse to mt Herbert...ha ha!!!

Lovely start to the day with one kiwi, One French, two Germans, one Sri Lankan and One Chinese...nice international flavour and a lovely start from Orton Bradley park...following the stream and starting a gentle climb. It was not long before the newcomers were introduced to our stinging nettle and after that it literally ruled the track. Darshi being the slimmest seemed to slip through while the others insisted on trying to prune their way through. The nettle overcame it was the gorse's turn to rule the track...this was harder to trim back but easier to push through. Summit was made by lunchtime and one lazy person stayed behind for coffee instead of going to the summit of Mt Herbert...

Then it was the easy descent to the Packhorse hut...the gorse over this side had been well hacked back..making easy walking and Howard asking what the names of all the trees were...since he did not remember we told him all sorts of names!!!!so if he is on a future trip and starts swearing he is not to blame...he may think it is a tree!

Never having been down for Packhorse to Orton Bradley the direct way I was interested and it was all going well until we lost the track in some dense bush....then downward, downwards....it seemed a loong way coming down. Thanks to Mathias who called out to some engrossed talkers and who kept going down the roadway instead and watching the red posts...we all made it back to the cars safely about 4pm

Lovely weather...too hot in places and quite cool in others...great views.

Liz Tanner leader and scribe, Dharshie Jeyaseelan, Caroline Heidt, Mathias Fiedelak, Caroline Solazzo, Howard Wang

Well done all.

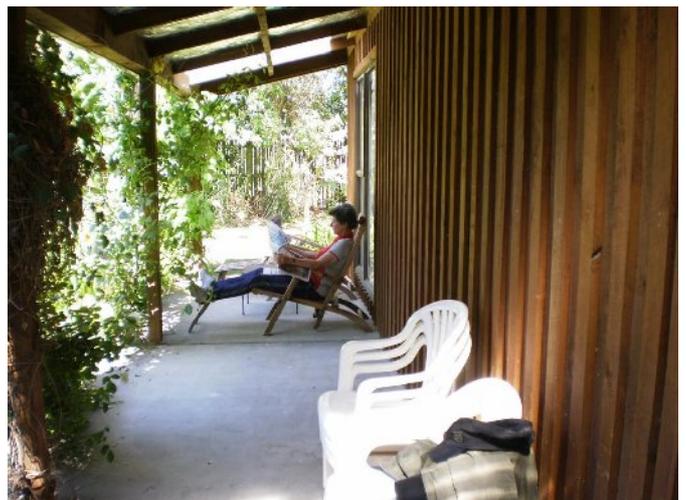
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12-13 November 2010

## Kaikoura base camp:



*Trampers or bird-men?*



*What a life!*

Some early birds left Christchurch at 8am-ish and headed out to the Haumuri bluffs from Oaro... it was an idyllic day... huge foaming breakers crashing in... and someone had mucked up the tides but as the tide was in we were not plagued with basking seals... just had the challenge of a few dashes between the waves coming in and rapid retreats to higher ground at times... (the

waves did not look that big from the railway line).

We were making great progress when the leader straddled a rock and saw a fish tail... then a fish body... then realised it was that lazy big seal who did not like to move and was not impressed when she said he was dead... so took a big snarl and the leader fearlessly put her umbrella between her team and the said seal... or rather between herself and the seal... who decided the umbrella did not look like a great feed and did retreat down the beach. I think the others had their cardiac workout for the day in one easy moment. We could not make the bluff as the waves seemed to be getting bigger and it was getting hotter so we returned in much faster time... had a very pleasant walk back along the beach via the estuary at Oaro where all the locals were in swimming, kayaking and enjoying the beautiful weather.

We headed down to the house just before Jason and Lisa who had been out boating arrived... followed soon after by Adrian and Kerry... then it was sit around and relax time... after Andrew had erected his tent. None of us quite lasted to do the bonfire on the beach that night, nor the outdoor hot bath fire thing either.

Next day it was different directions again... leisurely start... Jason and Lisa boating and went to view the seal pups at the waterfall... Adrian and Kerry up Mt FYffe... Sally, Andrew and Liz went to coastal walkway and swam in surf... then met up with Elena and Dimitry to go rafting the Clarence... great fun and another perfect day.

Back for BBQ and Chris arrived with 2 daughters... his friends brought down paua and scallops for the BBQ... then bonfire on the beach night.

Sunday saw 5 of us go to the Seaward valley walk and look at seal pups (it was 25 degrees at 7am)... back for late lunch and home with southerly change very welcome.

Team was Andrew Nicholls, Sally Maccallum, Jason Trimble, Lisa Harrison, Adrian Busby, Kerry Smith, Chris Williams, Elena and Dimitry. Liz Tanner leader.

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7 November 2010

## Ben More Horseshoe



*At the first scrog stop*



*Up into the snow*

After several attempts to do this trip, Ken finally got some good weather and launched forth with a large party to tackle Ben More. After parking just off the Lyndon Road and the obligatory introductions for new or non-members we set off up the southern arm of the horseshoe ridge. The pace set by the leaders was rapid and the initial climb quite steep so that the party were soon well spread out in traditional CTC fashion. Ken kept things together admirably however and the front runners were soon happy to stop and rest in the sun. New soft snow from the

recent southerly, encountered from about 1500m upwards, also seemed to discourage some of the erstwhile sprinters. We settled to a more sedate pace through a few more rest stops until Richard step-plugged his way to a the perfect lunch spot, clear of snow and with stunning views, right on the top of 1624.

After lunch we moved on over Ben More itself (1655), down into the dip and up towards the rather ominous grey murk lurking over 1660. Ken's magic wand-waving worked though - by the time the whole group was sprawled around the cairn on 1660 it was almost bright and sunny again. After another leisurely stop we headed off for the long amble down the northern spur of the horseshoe. Jonathan found a promising looking scree towards the end and bounded down it, closely followed by Ian and Richard and then me. Chris, Vanessa, Christina and Emma took things more cautiously, shepherded by the diligent Ken and followed by Annette and Phil. After a minor detour to avoid the more vicious clumps of matagouri waiting for us at the bottom we were soon crossing the flats on the way back to the cars.

Thanks Ken for a great trip and some most impressive weather-magic.

Trampers: Ken Brown (leader and weather-wand-waver), Richard Lobb, Emma Bosworth, Ian Dunn, Chris Taylor, Vanessa Lane, Christina Zablan, Annette Lecrane, Phil Driver, Jonathan Carr, Jenny Harlow (scribe)

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Show Weekend 12-14 November 2010

## Travers-Sabine Traverse + Rahu Peak



*Avalanche Debris, John Tait hut*



*Melting tarn on top of Travers Saddle*

Leading up to the weekend, there were 4 of us trying to get the feng shui right of where to go for the long weekend. This was due to bad weather forecast. Therefore, the plan changed from Dillon's cone to Mt Barth to Scott's knob to Mt Davie and then Odyssey basin before we had even left Christchurch. We met up at 6am on Friday at Andrew's and after sorting out which vehicle could travel over the roughest country the best, we settled on Steve's 4WD. We headed North towards Lewis Pass with a myriad of maps which necessitated several shotgun/backseat changes due to either Steve's driving, or studing various maps within a moving vehicle.

Passing Culverden, someone had the idea that Grand Duchess in the Lewis would be worth a go, however, the only "map" that we had was a foggy idea in Antony's head of how to get there as he had done 3 brief trips in the area in the past year, and the fact that none of us had bagged the top before.

However, driving through the Lewis Pass the cloud was low and so we eliminated that idea and decided to head towards St Arnaud. We looked at what peaks we could climb given the weather

forecast, starting with Mt Cupola, plus a few ideas of other peaks in the vicinity. We finally settled on doing the Travers- Sabine Circuit, with the hope of bagging a peak along the way if the weather held out ok. This circuit could also be done in bad weather, so was a logical back-up case.

We parked at the lower Mt Robert carpark in fine, hot weather and headed towards Lakehead Hut. We stopped for lunch at the hut and watched a fortilla of cute ducklings "surfing" in the ripples on the beach in front of the hut. We then headed up the Travers River to Upper Travers Hut, hardly talking much as Steve mentioned later, and Clive setting a blistering pace. There was much discussion between Clive and Andrew regarding their new boots that were not up to their high satisfaction – no wonder when you only pay about \$100 for them!

Early the next morning, having two of us move outside the bunkroom due to a horrendously out-of-tune snorer overnight, the weather dawned fine and clear – for once the weather forecast was wrong, and after a spontaneous decision, we headed up behind the hut towards Kahu Peak (2220m). The best route up there was going up the edge of a scree slope just downstream of the hut and up into a basin and head south, then up around and behind the west ridge of Kahu. We started walking on snow about the 1700m altitude mark, and we found a snow-tongue that we step-plugged up to within 100m or so of the summit. At the top of this, we clambered over rocks for the last 100m altitude on the western slope to a narrow ridgeline to the summit. Steve got the King of the Mountain title, followed by Antony, Clive and Andrew who was just pipped for third place by a last-burst effort from Clive. Some guys never grow out of their boy-racer altitudes [sic]...

We were rewarded with fantastic views from the top, with Tappy and the Seaward / Inland Kaikouras in the East, Mt Owen in the North, Travers/Robert Ridge and beyond in the West, and some of the Lewis peaks in the South.

We quickly descended to the hut, packed the rest of our gear into our packs and set off over Travers Saddle. After temporarily losing Andrew at the saddle while the other 3 of us lazed in the sun in the tussock, we found he had passed us and was already part way down the other side. The descent into the Sabine was albeit slower pace than uphill due to the aging knees of most of the party. We got down to the Bridge that crosses the West Sabine near where the Forks Hut was showing on Steve's inch to the mile map, to discover that the hut had since dematerialised and morphed back into the forest from whence it had originally come.

We motored down the Sabine River to the Sabine Hut on the shores of Lk Rotoroa, slightly behind Clive's optimistic 12m kilometres, but it sure felt like we were doing it! We had managed to persuade him not to do the Moss Pass route and go down the Durville, which meant that we got to Sabine Hut after a 13 hour day, instead of the 20+++ hours that he may have been thinking...

On the third day, Clive and Steve opted for the high route up to Lake Angelus and down the Speargrass Ck, while Andrew and Antony took a more direct route through the open bush to Speargrass Hut. This proved to be only about 10min faster than the Angelus route owing to the state of our feet.

It poured with rain for the final two hours, but apart from that, the weather was fine and warm despite the weather.

This was an interesting trip in that we made it up as we went, since we had the gear, fitness and experience to do just about whatever we felt like doing...

We stopped off at the Rivers Café in Murchison on the way back, even though we felt like a solid feed of chips, they weren't able to cook them for some obscure reason.

Leaders: No-one. Strategists: Steve, Clive, Andrew, Antony (+ scribe)

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# More about the CTC

## Committee:

<b>President</b>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<b>Club Captain</b>	Jim Western	384-8950
<b>Vice-president</b>	Rex Vink	352-5329	<b>Day-trip Organiser</b>	Jenny Harlow	349-2280
<b>Secretary</b>	Cathy Harlow	349-2280	<b>Weekend-trip Organiser</b>	Thomas Matern	385-3507
<b>Treasurer</b>	Antony White	381-5993	<b>Hut Convenor</b>	David Watson	981-7929
<b>Editor/Webmaster</b>	Richard Lobb	351-2344	<b>Gear Custodian</b>	Jim Western	384-8950
<b>Social convenor</b>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<b>New Members Rep</b>	Janet Spittlehouse	981-1944

**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.

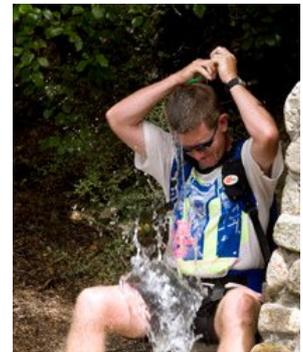
**Equipment Hire:** The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Jim Western 384-8950. Note: club gear assigned to you is your responsibility; please take care of it. Please make sure you put tents inside your pack. Tents attached to the outside of your pack can be easily punctured 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

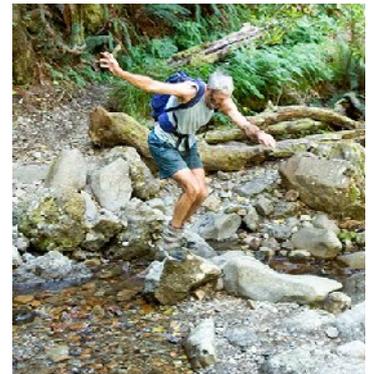
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Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor (editor@ctc.org.nz) by Sunday, 23 January 2011 – Thanks.



## Mt Somers 'Round the Mountain' Challenge

Forget the Coast to Coast, Avalanche Peak, the Olympics, garden parties at Buckingham Palace... forget even Alan's birthday party. This has to be the premier event of 2011. Come along and try the 'Round the Mountain' challenge on 30 January - there are options for all. The round trip encompasses a lovely mixture of terrain, from beech forest, bush and cooling streams to rolling tussock, through rocky gorges and across the sub-alpine south face. There are groups for runners and trampers, and there is even the option of doing half rather than a full circuit. Everyone brings a bit of a picnic (chairs? picnic rugs?). It's a great social occasion.



Tasteful T-shirt prizes for first man, first woman as well as first new members (man and woman) to complete the challenge without too-obvious cheating or helicopter support.



**Runners** (expecting to do the full circuit in less than 7 hours).

We thought that Stu had set an unbeatable time in the inaugural event, but Jeff proved us wrong last year - if you are competitively minded, come along and see what you can do about 3 hours 59 minutes 40 seconds. Otherwise, come along just to enjoy the run.

Runners meet at the Shell for 8 am departure.



**Trampers** (expecting to take 8-9 hours for the circuit).

Although some of the runners take it somewhat seriously, it's a fun event and doing the circuit at a more sensible pace should be within the reach of most moderate trampers. Try it and you may surprise yourself (and there is the option to walk out from Woolshed Creek Hut if the whole circuit is looking a bit much by then).

Trampers meet at the Shell for 7am departure.



Not the challenging type? Come along to support the others, splash around in the river, and enjoy a trip up Staveley Hill to cheer the challengers on for that final section. Bring a picnic and participate in prize-giving festivities and general post-event euphoria. Supporters - meet at the Shell for 8 am departure.

Volunteers to help with the event on the day are also welcome - contact Susan or Jenny.

