



THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC
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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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Wilding Pines #2, 2012

The CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB has members of all ages, and runs tramping trips every weekend, ranging from easy (minimal experience required) to hard (high fitness and experience required). We also organise instructional courses and hold weekly social meetings. We have a club hut in Arthurs Pass and have gear available for hire to members. Membership rates per year are \$45 member, \$65 couple, \$25 junior or associate, with a \$5 discount for members who opt to obtain this newsletter electronically.

For more about how the club operates, see the last page.

News

New Members Welcome: We welcome 3 new members to the club: Bob Nye, Jovan Andric and Xiaoqui Jiang. Please accept the club's warm welcome to you all.

Wilding Pines: Three very successful Wilding Pines days have been held this autumn. WELRA (an alliance including Ecan, DOC, landowners, etc - see <http://www.welra.org.nz/>) is making important progress and although it is a long-term project, our Club's contribution does make a difference. Many thanks to Lynette Harley and Jeff Hall for organising the Club's participation again this year.

Helmets: Last month an experienced trumper in Nelson died in a fall and, on the same weekend, our own Bryce Williamson was lucky to survive a serious fall on The Spurs trip. Tramping, while normally safe, has risks and it is easy to become complacent about these. The wearing of helmets in steep terrain can greatly reduce two of the major tramping risks: rockfall from above and head injury in a fall. To encourage the use of helmets the committee has recommended that leaders of trips into steep rocky terrain tag their trips as 'helmets required' or, at their discretion, 'helmets recommended'. As a further incentive, hire of helmets from the club will be free.

2012 AGM: At the AGM on 19 April 2012 the following were appointed to the Committee for 2012/13: President - Warwick Dowling; Senior Vice President - Alan Ross; Junior Vice President - Steve Bruerton; Secretary - Li Li; Treasurer - Andrea Zahn; Editor - Sam Cook; Club Captain - Adrian Busby; Weekend Trip Organiser - Thomas Matern; Day Trip Organiser - Antony White; Hut Convenor - Steve Bruerton; Social Convenor - Jim Western; Club Patron - Rex Vink; General Committee members - Liz Van Ekeris, David Cockeram, Bruce Cameron, Jonathan Carr, Gareth Caves, Cristina Zablan. Douglas Napier was appointed Honorary Auditor. The Hut Committee is: Steve Bruerton, David Watson, Rex Vink, Don Carnielo, Andrew Wrapson, Ken Brown, Steve Berry, Dayle Drummond, Don Carnielo, David Jenkinson, Bernhard Parawa, Malcolm Carr. We wish to thank everyone who served on the Committee last year and especially to Janet Splittlehouse (new members representative for the past three years), Jenny Harlow (long-term committee member and relieving secretary after Chantal left) and Richard Lobb (editor for the past four years), all of whom are now taking a well-deserved break from committee work (although Richard continues to be the our web-master).

Club Hut lock: A digital lock on the Club Hut at Arthurs Pass is to be installed shortly, replacing the current key lock. This means that if you are planning to use the Hut you **MUST** contact the Hut Convenor before leaving Christchurch to obtain the current combination (or you may find yourself out in the cold ...).

Meet the new editor: Sam Cook

Sam Cook will be taking over as newsletter editor as soon as this edition is off the press. By way of introduction we have run him through the Trampler of the Month interrogation procedure.

<i>When did you join the CTC?</i>	2007
<i>How did you find out about the CTC</i>	I googled "tramping club christchurch" - you can guess what link came up first.
<i>Did you tramp before joining the CTC?</i>	Yes, I did my first tramp when I was at Scouts. We went up to the packhorse hut.
<i>Who was the first CTC person you met?</i>	Susan Pearson, at a Club Night.
<i>What was your first day trip?</i>	Mt Vulcan. I did not really think the trip would go ahead because of the weather but I turned up anyway along with about a dozen others. It was snowing before we got out of the cars, and cleared up as the day went on, a great day out.
<i>What was your first weekend trip?</i>	The first overnight trip I did with the club was the Heaphy Track with Craig Beere.
<i>What are your favourite trips?</i>	My favourite day trips are Rabbit hill or Bealey Spur. The weekend trip I like best is Lake Christabel. The view from the top of Rough Creek on a clear day is just spectacular.
<i>What is your favourite hut?</i>	After 9 hours of tramping in heavy rain, and several crossings of the Andrews 'Stream', the Casey Hut looked like the Hilton. Otherwise I have to say the Hamilton Hut with its view out towards Stag Hill.



Who or what had the biggest influence on your tramping days?

Probably my Dad. We've done lots of trips together.

What future trips are you most looking forward to?

One day I'll join a trip though the Three Passes. Until then anywhere I haven't been before.

What interests or hobbies do you have, other than tramping?

Besides tramping, I spend some of my spare time flying radio controlled helicopters with a local club.

(And of course from now on he can add wrestling with purple newsletter-prose to his list of pastimes...)

Calendar of trips and Social Events

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

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

Social: We meet on 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.

Thursday 26 April

Club Night

Newsletter folding night: After we fold the newsletter we can have some social time.

<p>Saturday 28 April Departure point: Shell Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210 Tecbruce@gmail.com</p>
<p>Mt Arden: Starting from Mount Arden Station, Hawdon area, we follow Tommys Stream To Matagouri Stream. We then head up onto the ridgeline cresting Mount Arden to take in the views over the Middle Waipara River. We also check out some other interesting tops for future conquest. (Doctors Hills; Double tops; Mounts Mason, Lance ,Hilton, Grey and Okuku). Following on along the ridgeline we then descend down to McDonald Downs and off for rehydration or perhaps icecreams. On/off track, 400m height gain. 11km.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closed: 26 Apr Map: BV23 Approx: \$20</p>
<p>Saturday 28 April Departure point: Shell Papanui</p>	<p>Leader Required. Contact Antony White, 381-5993, to see if one has been found.</p>
<p>Mt Horrible: Did you know that there are six Mt Horribles in the South Island? Doesn't 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 - with this leader it's bound to be a good day. This is a great trip to test out your winter snow skills (assuming there's snow of course), and although it's not that high (1254m) it's a good tramp with good views from the top over the Waimak towards the Hawdon, Sudden Valley and the Polar Range.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate Closed: 26 Apr Map: BV21 Approx: \$20</p>
<p>Weekend 28-29 April 7am early start Departure point: Shell Papanui</p>	<p>Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz</p>
<p>Hurunui River Hot Pool: It's a long walk from the Lake Taylor road end to the pools but it is rewarded by a great, hot bath with a stunning view. There is a good track all the way to the pool and no height gain but it is about 25km each way. Depending on the party we will either stay at the Hurunui Hut about 1 hour from the pools or camp on the river bed just below the pools, allowing all-night soaking. Due to the size of the pool, this trip is limited to 5 people so sign up quickly!</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 19 Apr Map: BU22 Approx: \$35</p>

Sunday 29 April Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Richard Kimberley 326 6158
<p>The Dome: The Dome (1945m) is a distinctive bump between the Edwards and the Waimakariri. It's a moderate trip, but at the longer/more strenuous end of the moderate range. We'll probably go in via the long western spur, climbing steadily to the bush line (about 700m up) and then up another 500m+ along the open undulating ridge to the summit of the Dome itself. There are a number of descent options, including dropping down into the the beautiful Edwards valley to the track that goes up to the Edwards Hut. It will be a long day so we may well make an early start - make sure you check in with the leader in advance. Helmets may be required, please check with the Leader.</p>	Grade: Moderate+ Closed: 26 Apr Map: BV20 Approx: \$25	
Thursday 3 May		Club Night
<p>The Amazing Chatham Island Black Robin by Raazesh Sainudiin: In 2011 Raaz spent a month on the tiny island of Rangatira in the Chathams, home of the amazing black robin. These black robins are a critically endangered species (population around 200 birds), but less so now than in 1980 when there was only one breeding pair left (and only five birds in total)! Raaz will tell us about his experiences on this wild remote island and about the way in which the black robin has been saved from extinction - so far at least. Very few people in the world are ever able to visit Rangatira so this is a unique opportunity for us to see and hear about it</p>		
Saturday 5 May Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: David Sutton 348 5998
<p>Goat Hill: A nice little 1650m bump directly above Otira opposite Mt Barron. It's an area we don't do as much as Arthur's Pass and fully deserves a bit more attention, especially with the lovely ridge route you can do with this trip. The route starts near the Otira bridge and travels up a good DOC track to the bushline. From there we will follow the ridge around to the summit. The return will be via the long southern ridge above the Deception and then down an old track back to the cars. Early start 7am at Shell Papanui. Helmets may be required, please check with the Trip Leader.</p>	Grade: ModHard Closes: 3 May Map: BV20 Approx: \$25	
Sunday 6 May Departure point: Caltex Russley		Leader: Jim Western 377 5431
<p>Andrews Stream - Hallelujah Flat: Hallelujah Flat is about 9k up the Andrews Track from Andrews Shelter, on the way to the Casey Hut. Given suitable weather, we'll offer anyone who's interested the option of going up the streambed rather than the track. Either way, it's about 300m height gain altogether, through red beech forest, and then you'll come out at Hallelujah flat itself, dotted with hebes - the perfect place for lunch. Then back to the cars via the track and Springfield for coffee, milkshake, icecream, etc.</p>	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 3 May Map: BV21 Approx: \$20	

Sunday 6 May		Leader: Matt Gunn 332 8704
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
Mt Torlesse: Local biggie in Torlesse Range overlooking Springfield. Usual access via Kowhai Stream. It's a satisfying day out and involves over 1300m climbing with some steep scrambling on ridge sections.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 May Map: BW21 Approx: \$20	
Thursday 10 May		Club Night
What gear can you as a club member use/hire/borrow?: This will be of most interest to newer or prospective members but may also surprise long term members also. We will show and discuss in brief the gear. Examples- helmets (now free to carry and use), tents (lots of choice), weekend packs, billies, personal locator beacons, Bothy bag (if you do not know what this is then come along), first aid kit, ice axe, crampons and much more. Of course we have the club lodge in Arthurs Pass also but will not have this at club on this occasion.		
Saturday 12 May		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210
Departure point: Shell Papanui		Tecbruce@gmail.com
Coastal Exploring : John Browns Tomb: Up near Nape Nape is an intriguingly-named rock formation on the Eastern Blythe Valley Hills. We will also visit a large seal coloney with lots of frolicking seal pups. Bring binoculars and cameras. A nice easy tramp, with some offtrack travel but in easy terrain. Height gain 300m, Distance 12 Km.	Grade: Easy Closes: 10 May Map: BX24 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 12-13 May		Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196
Departure point: Caltex Russley, 7:30am		steve.ngaire@xtra.co.nz
Corner Creek, Packard Peak: Hopefully this trip will start with a 4WD ride into the Avoca Valley (1st four to sign up get a ride) If we have more bottoms than seats we could take packs in by vehicle and have a mountain bike start to the trip. One way or another we will start walking at Corner Creek in the Avoca Valley. About 6km, 900m gain and a couple of waterfalls later, we should find a nice tarn in a high basin beneath Packard Peak. If we have time we will scoot up Packard on Saturday afternoon, otherwise we can climb on Sunday morning.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 3 May Map: BV20 BW20 Approx: \$40	
Weekend 12-13 May early start 7am		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
Departure point: Shell Papanui		bernhard.parawa@cdhb.govt.nz
Mt Sebastopol: Mount Sebastopol is in the Crimea Range about 30km north of Hanmer Springs and 10km east of Lake Tennyson. It's easily accessible from the Tophouse Road. The plan is to find a nice, not too high camp site and climb Sebastopol without the packs either on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning before heading home.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 May Map: BT24 BT25 Approx: \$40	

Sunday 13 May		Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
Gabriel Hut: The cute little Gabriel Hut is reached from a track starts from the road that leads to Lake Sumner via Lake Taylor. There isn't much height gain, so it's an easy walk into the hut (in the middle of the bush), and then an easy walk to the lake. There is the option of swimming at Lake Sumner for those who are keen.	Grade: Easy Closes: 10 May Map: BU23 Approx: \$25	
Tuesday 15 May		Social Event
Evening Social Meal Out: Welcome Chinese Vegetarian Café Jim Western (ph 377 5431) has made a booking for 15 at this vegetarian Café, from 7pm. Mains range from around \$9.50 through to \$21.00, (average price around \$15.00). Please can you contact Jim before if you wish to turn up so that he can confirm the numbers likely to be there? I have made a booking for 15 at this vegetarian Café, from 7pm. Mains range from around \$9.50 through to \$21.00, (average price around \$15.00). Please can you contact Jim before if you wish to turn up so that he can confirm the numbers likely to be there?		
Thursday 17 May		Club Night
Slide show from our own Steve Bruerton: Tonight will be a random selection of shots from the Steve Bruerton archives.		
Saturday 19 May		Leader: Bruce James 332-3473
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
Mt St Bernard: Mt St Bernard (1518m) is behind Purple Hill, which is next to Lake Pearson. This is one bump that the club hasn't done for quite some years, so it will be up to the capable leader to navigate a way through the Matagori.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 17 May Map: BV21 Approx: \$20	
Weekend 19-20 May		Leader: Gareth Gilbert 981-1737 gilbert.gareth@gmail.com
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
Pinnacles Hut and Mt Somers: A leisurely walk from the Sharplin Falls carpark to the Pinnacles Hut on Saturday. On Sunday we will follow the track to the saddle, climb Mt Somers and return to the cars via the track down the southern face. Easy trampers are welcome to join and can take the easy way back to the cars on Sunday.	Grade: Easy/Mod Closes: 10 May Map: BX19 BX20 Approx: \$40	
Sunday 20 May		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
Mt Manson: A club favourite. Northern end of the Craigieburn Range overlooking Lake Pearson. Options could include going along the ridge to the Craigieburn Range and along to Mt Hamilton, descending via Camp Saddle. Helmets may be required, please check with the Trip Leader.	Grade: Moderate+ Closes: 17 May Map: BV21 Approx: \$20	

Thursday 24 May		Club Night
<p>Fiordland Coast Walks: Fiordland Coast Walks offers multi-night guided and unguided walks along the coastlines of Fiordland and South Westland, from Kaipo Bay in the south to Jackson Bay at the road end on the West Coast, about 100km in total length. The coastlines remote isolation and difficult access has meant the raw and wild beauty has remained untouched since pre-human times. We will outline our history and experience of the coast, various happenings during our expeditions, the flora and fauna encountered and the human history of this area. We can also outline what we could offer to your club members which may extend from fully guided trips to simple logistics provision and planning for freedom hikes. The region is remote and difficult to access and the coastline has various features which intimate knowledge of bluffs, tides and rivers is useful for navigating.</p>		
Saturday 26 May		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Hurunui Peak: West of Culverden and down the ridge from Charring Cross (1000m) near the end of the Te Koa range. Located between the Hurunui and Dove Rivers. Great views of the Big and Little Island Hill Ranges also looking out over the Amuri Plains. On and off track. 620m height gain</p>		<p>Grade: EasyMod Closes: 24 May Map: BU24 Approx: \$20</p>
Weekend 26-27 May		Leader: Andrew Wrapson 980-6006
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Hawdon Hut: We will start at the Hawdon Shelter and follow the Hawdon River upstream to the spacious Hawdon Hut. The track stays in the riverbed all the way so the total height gain on this trip is about 80m. The Hawdon Hut is a quite new 20 bunk hut next to the river with a great view. From the hut there are options to walk up to Twin Falls or even further to a nice tarn on Walker Pass. Please make sure that you have got a valid hut pass or 3 hut tickets.</p>		<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 17 May Map: BV21 Approx: \$35 + hut fees</p>
Sunday 27 May		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Crossover: Woolshed Creek to Sharplin Falls: A great opportunity to walk the full length of the Mt Somers subalpine walkway in one day, from Sharplin Falls to the Woolshed Creek carpark, with no transport hassles at the end. Hopefully we'll have enough people for two parties, one going in each direction. The walkway offers a great variety of scenery: bush, river, waterfalls, gorges, stunning rock-faces, tussock tops, and a couple of cosy huts to pause at en route. There's even an historic coal mine to inspect. It's 17km with a total height gain of about 1000m, but all on good tracks, so is at the easy end of the club's 'moderate' tramp range.</p>		<p>Grade: EasyMod+ Closes: 24 May Map: BX19 BX20 Approx: \$25</p>

Thursday 31 May	Club Night
Newsletter folding + Bali: After the newsletter is folded Rex Vink is going to take us to the part of Bali you do not see on TV. Apparently it's Green and lush! Let's find out	
Saturday 2 June Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Antony White 381-5993
Mt Philistine: Matthew Arnold (Victorian writer, poet and general self-confident arbiter of what's-what in the late 19th century) characterised the aristocracy as Barbarians, the middle classes as Philistines, and the working class as the populace. So today we attempt the middle classes, all 1967m of them. The Philistine bluffs have a bit of a reputation but there is a good route up through them for the cognoscenti, and after that there is more rock and scrambling to Philistine itself. Those happy on rock that may move of its own volition will have a great day, with views to die for, a nice energetic scramble, and a bit of class rivalry thrown in. And of course the admiration of the too-fat-to-fly kea in the village as you relax in a virtuous glow afterwards with tea or ice-cream...Please note, helmets will be compulsory on this trip, and please let the leader know in advance if you need one.	Grade: ModHard (requires snow skills) Closes: 31 May Map: BV20 Approx: \$30
Long Weekend 2-4 June Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931 bernhard.parawa@cdhb.govt.nz
Big Tops/Taramakau/Otehake area: Leaving town on Friday night 1st June, 7pm, to stay at the club hut. On Saturday head up to Townsend or Koropuku hut, tramp along the tops and head down to the Otehake hot pools. Out on Monday. At the time of writing ice axe and crampons are not required but that may change - contact leader.	Grade: Moderate Closes: 24 May Map: BU21 BV21 Approx: \$40
Sunday 3 June Departure point: Shell Papanui	Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
Peak Hill: Take a drive out to tranquil Lake Coleridge and climb the Peak Hill (1240m) - Pat Barrett rates it 'unequivocally outstanding' as a viewpoint and a 'special place for mood and light' and he has surely seen a few of the best! There is good access via a well graded track up to a small saddle from where you can see into both the Rakaia and out over Coleridge. From the saddle we'll continue up through the tussocks to the broad summit at 1240m, to give about 600m height gain altogether. A great trip at any time of year.	Grade: EasyMod Closes: 31 May Map: BW20 Approx: \$25

Thursday 7 June		Club Night
<p>Camino de Santiago de Compostela - a Pilgrim's Progress. The Way of St James: Anne Corcoran and Susan Cotton have both walked this pilgrims trail from France, across the top of Spain to Santiago de Compostela on separate occasions. Not only did they enjoy spectacular scenery and meet interesting people but they were able to get a feel for the endurance required when walking for weeks on end (5 in all). The route is still alive with people walking, riding, and crawling(!) today even though it has been established by the 12th century. The trail has attracted great wealth over the centuries which is expressed in the incredible architecture and flamboyance seen in the churches and monasteries along the way. This is in great contrast to the simplicity of the pilgrims' journey Susan and Anne experienced. Come and hear their story.</p>		
Saturday 9 June		Leader: Alastair Brown 343-5111
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Mt Binser: Mt Binser is a commanding peak above the Mt White Road with panoramic views of the south-east Arthurs Pass National Park area. We start up the Binser Saddle track to the saddle (1085m) where we leave the track, heading up firstly through bush and then open slopes to pt 1753m. A few k's of superb ridge travel then brings us to the main peak (1868m, 1350m total height gain). With a car shuffle at the start we'll be able to drop down to the south-west to the road. Snow skills and snow toys probably required. Check with leader for an early start and helmets may be required.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills)</p> <p>Closes: 7 Jun</p> <p>Map: BV21</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>	
Weekend 9-10 June		Leader: Richard Lobb 351-2344
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Lake Christabel, Rough Creek: Easy beech forest tramping on day 1, though it's 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.</p>		<p>Grade: Moderate</p> <p>Closes: 31 May</p> <p>Map: BT22 BT23</p> <p>Approx: \$40</p>
Sunday 10 June		Leader: Leader Required
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Korowai-Torlesse Tussocklands: Actually the whole park would be a bit ambitious - it's 21,000 hectares altogether. We'll head in at the base of Porters Pass, probably ambling towards Trig M. It's an easy social trip which will be tailored to the group on the day. The main aim is to get out and enjoy the winter landscape in our first tussock grasslands conservation area. Tussock is indeed the major feature of the landscape for our trip - but it's not all the same you know: the slim-leaved snow tussock is common but the area also the eastern limit of mid-ribbed snow tussock - see if you can spot the difference! There could be snow so gaiters and a walking pole will be useful; dress warmly, and have a great time.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod</p> <p>Closes: 7 Jun</p> <p>Map: BW21</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>	

Saturday 16 June		Leader: Bruce Cameron 365 8210
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Cass Ridge: Walk through a fascinating limestone area in coastal North Canterbury. As well as the limestone there are some good stands of native bush, and we'll pop over Mt Cass (525m), Totara (527m) and Oldham (496m) on our way along a low spine of hills. Mount Cass is the site of a proposed windfarm, which was given resource consent by the Environment Court in December 2011. Come along and see the area and its unusual limestone environment for yourselves before the wind turbines appear. Some off-track tramping in gentle country, 10 - 12k at a relaxed pace, in a very interesting area - a tramp to please almost everyone.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+</p> <p>Closes: 14 Jun</p> <p>Map: BV24</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>	
Weekend 16-17 June		Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Cameron Hut: Located behind Mt Somers, the Arrowsmith Range is far larger and steeper than the surrounding foothills. 5 or 6 hours tramping, with only a little climbing towards the end, will get us to the Cameron hut, situated on the remnant terminal moraine of the Cameron Glacier. Spectacular views from the hut on to the Arrowsmith mountains.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/Mod</p> <p>Closes: 7 Jun</p> <p>Map: BW18 BX19</p> <p>Approx: \$35</p>	
Sunday 17 June		Leader: Bernhard Parawa 981-4931
Departure point: Shell Papanui		
<p>Savannah Range: Woolshed Hill (1429m) is a straightforward 800m ascent on a good track from the Hawdon Shelter, but on this trip we aim to go quite a bit further and have a real explore of a less-visited area . . . The plan is to head along the ridge towards the Savannah Range, dropping down to the Hawdon for the return march. Nothing too hard but a longish way and a longish day.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills)</p> <p>Closes: 14 Jun</p> <p>Map: BV21</p> <p>Approx: \$20</p>	
Saturday 23 June		Social Event
<p>Annual CTC Mid Winter Breakfast.: Look out in the June news letter for the time and venue. This is your last chance to nominate the annual club 'Loo-Loo' of the year award, for the most deserving recipient, in such categories including; the most geographically challenged, logistically lacking, or outrageously disoriented. Please note that accurate details are all well and good, but never let the truth get in the way of a good story! All welcome.</p>		

Saturday 23 June Early start: contact leader Leader: Warwick Dowling 981-2045
 Departure point: Shell Papanui

<p>Mons Sex Millia: Mons Sex Millia is 6000 ft high (hence the name - 'the 6000 bump' translates - roughly - to 'mons sex millia' in Latin) but for those of you used to this new-fangled metric system you get a rather-less-readily-translatable 1840m. We will approach and return from the west, keeping out of the bush as much as possible, going past Garnet Peak. Longish day tramping: ~8 hours, and around 1300m height gain. Bring ice-axe. Should be great! Note: early start and may require helmets, but please check with leader.</p>	<p>Grade: Moderate (requires snow skills) Closes: 21 Jun Map: BU23 Approx: \$30</p>
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Weekend 23-24 June Leader: Cristina Zablan 03 374 6354
 Departure point: Shell Papanui cristimo28@gmail.com

<p>Croesus Top Hut: A great family trip in the Paparoa Range. We will leave on Friday evening (7pm) and stay at the club hut in Arthur's Pass. On Saturday it is just a short drive to the start of the track, leaving plenty of time to explore historic mines or to climb Croesus Knob for a great view towards the coast. On Sunday we will return the same way.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy+ Closes: 14 Jun Map: BT19 BT20 Approx: \$50</p>
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Weekend 23-24 June Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196

<p>Mt Greenlaw: Reputed to be the loosest pile of choss amongst numerous contenders in the Arthurs Pass area. The leader's cunning plan is to attack while it is frozen into a solid (ish) lump. Lack of daylight hours will also assist us to sneak up on it before it can fall on us. 4wd approach via Avoca Valley is the intention.</p>	<p>Grade: ModHard Closes: 14 Jun Map: BV20 Approx: \$40</p>
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Sunday 24 June Leader: Michael Newlove 355-8360
 Departure point: Shell Papanui

<p>Tiromoana Bush: Otherwise known as the Kate Valley Walkway, the Tiromoana Bush Track is a new-ish walkway constructed as a result of the landfill deal. The club did a 'test run' before it officially opened and it's been a popular tramp ever since. It's certainly a great way to explore the area to the east of the landfill where native bush and the Ella Ponds wetlands are being protected and restored. The track loops around from the Glenafric road to a cliff lookout (Tiromoana means 'view of the sea') and access to the Ella Peak Scenic Reserve and the beach and then back past the wetlands.</p>	<p>Grade: Easy Closes: 21 Jun Map: BV23 Approx: \$15</p>
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Saturday 30 June Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Max De Lacey 03-688-8342
<p>Big Mount Peel via Coal Hill: This trip will start from Boundary Stream, and will approach Big Mt Peel from the East, rather than the traditional Little Mt Peel. Be prepared for a long day, as there will be about 1400m height gain from the cars and approx 18km. As you'd expect, the tussock tops offer panoramic views out over this lovely area. Note: there could be an early start - make sure you contact the leader - and be prepared for a long but rewarding day. Ice Axe and Crampons required.</p>	Grade: Moderate+ (requires snow skills)	Closes: 28 Jun Map: Approx:
Sunday 1 July Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Kerrie Maynard 386-2850
<p>Camp Saddle: Camp Saddle is a nice accessible part of the Craigieburns, just off the main range of Hamilton, Cockayne, Cheeseman etc. We can go up from the ski field access road, or perhaps round via the Craigieburn Valley. 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 Broken River Ski area. From the saddle we do a lovely promenade east along the top of a spur to point 1525 and then drop off 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.</p>	Grade: Easy/Mod (Requires Snow Skills)	Closes: 28 Jun Map: BW21 Approx: \$25
Long Weekend 20-22 July Departure point: Contact Leader		Leader: Thomas Matern 354-4309 thomas_matern@yahoo.co.nz
<p>Welcome Flat Hot Pool: Enjoy a long weekend at/in the best hot pools the South Island has on offer. We will leave on Thursday afternoon and drive all the way to a DOC camp ground at Lake Mapourika just north of Franz Josef. After having a good breakfast in Franz Josef the next morning we will follow a great track to the pools. Since this is not a long weekend we will most likely be alone there for the first night. On Saturday there are options to venture up the valley or to relax in the pools. On Sunday we will walk back to the cars and return to Christchurch, hopefully before midnight. Trip cost of \$110 includes transport (\$70-\$80), hut tickets (2x\$15) and camp ground fees. A hut pass is not valid at this hut.</p>	Grade: EasyMod+	Closes: 12 Jul Map: BX14 BX15 Approx: \$110

Weekend 28-29 July Departure point: Shell Papanui		Leader: Steve Bruerton 322-6196
<p>Basic Snowcraft Course: An introduction to the basic snow skills needed by any club member wishing to head into the high country over winter. The course covers the use of iceaxe and crampons, basic avalanche awareness, winter survival techniques and snow shelters. Ice axe, crampons and helmet required; these can be hired from the gear custodian get in quick with your bookings or you will have to hire gear from the mountaineering shops in town. Contact leader for additional gear requirements. Gear check (appropriate boots, etc) will be at club night on Thurs 26th. Or as agreed with leader if you can't make it in on Thursday. Leaving town Saturday morning for the Craigieburn area. Saturday night will be at the Club hut at Arthurs Pass. Sunday back to the Cragiburns then home. This course is available only to full club members.</p>	Grade: Training Closes: 19 Jul Map: BV20 Approx: \$60	

Saturday 4 August		Leader: Adrian Busby 325-5001
<p>Trip Leaders Course: All you needed to know about running trips but were afraid to ask. A course for leaders and aspiring leaders to learn the skills of running trips. Trip planning, weather monitoring, choosing suitable trip members and equipment. Assessing situations, setting priorities, making decisions and taking effective action. Evaluating and minimizing risks. Using different styles of leadership for different situations. Handling challenges, conflicts and accidents. Managing people in groups with a range of abilities. Doing all that and still enjoying the trip! A combination of classroom and outdoor training - come along and be challenged. Start at 9am at the Horticulture Centre where we normally meet on Thursdays.</p>	Grade: Training Closes: 2 Aug Map: Approx: \$0	

Trip Reports

31 March 2012

Wilding Pines #2

Being a narrative of the second 2012 Wilding Pines day.

We met as usual at the Yaldhurst pub (amidst myriad othe groups - some 65 people in all according to the Ecan abacus), admired the various vehicles with Very Large Tyres, climbed in and took a deep breath and prepared to hang on to dear life/any non-detachable interior artefact ameanable of being hung to... Some multiple-juddering km, screams, and attempts to climb out via the snorkle later (I speak only from personal experience of course), we were duly delivered to the mustering point on Flock Hill station, local Home of the Wilding Pine. Demos of of How to Kill a Pine, and (the sequel) How to

Really Kill a Pine So It's Really Really Dead followed. All those of you with a faith in science should reflect that planting these things was considered a Really Good Idea not so long ago ... Then we selected our weapons from the Ecan armoury (axe, machete, saw, loppers, or all of the above), formed into Hunting parties and set off.

Cunning hunting technique was not a high priority as it turned out: the things were everywhere. I don't think we've done this exact area before and it was certainly one of the highest concentrations of large pines I have seen after many years of doing these Wilding Pines days. The only problem was missing the tiny ones as one steamed towards the biggies making exclamation marks in one's field of vision. Luckily Alan was always there to point out the babies missed en-route ...

Ecan have got much better organised on the chainsaws: it's so good to just to be able to deal with the aftermath of a Flock Hill Chainsaw Massacre than have to do the whole thing with handtools. Except the indefatigable Jeff of course, who dealt death blows to even the largest and made the chainsaws blush pink with shame.

General pine-slaughter took place... But there were more than even our enthusiastic band could cope with. We reconvened at 4 pm with the knowledge that even now some escapees were contemplating retaliatory coning ...

We've been into this general area for the past 3 or 4 years and although we have done some great work, today showed very clearly that the task is by no means over. But it also showed what a difference a committed arboricidal group of people can make in an afternoon. There is one more Wilding Pines day left for this year: 14 April - sign up, do your bit, enjoy the rush of legitimated violence ... A great day out and a worthwhile cause - what more could you want?

Jeff Hall (CTC on-the-ground organiser and tree-chopper extraordinaire), Rex Vink, Grant Bowden, Phil Tree, Mike Newlove, Bernhard Parawa, Andrea Zahn, Steve Bruerton (4wdriver extraordinaire, in every sense), Alan Ross (shoulders extraordinaire, in the anatomical sense), Luca Vinkle, Lisa McArthur, Cecilia Cameron, Paul Titus, Jenny Harlow

6th-7th April 2012

Mt Adams



View down to the bivvy site at 1545m



Summit icecap; true summit at rear

Mt Adams is a 2200 mtr peak that is visible to travellers along State Highway6 from Lake lanthe to Lake Wahapo.

Good Friday 8am, the mist slowly lifts on the Harihari flats and four of us begin a boulder

hop up the Little Man River. Our packs increase in size as we load an extra 4litres at our last water spot before the alpine tops. The forest track leads up a steep rata clad spur and by 2pm after much hauling on tree roots we are all sprawled out in the tussock at our bivy at point 1545. Little further movement occurs from this point on until Mike suggests we go for the summit now instead of tomorrow. Mikes only previous CTC Trip was graded Easy and had an 11hour day in it. Not wanting to disappoint him with a ModHard that takes less than 11hours we rallied and prepared for more climbing. Its 3pm now and theres a kea buzzing around so after thoroughly kea proofing our bivy gear with rocks we set off.

Tussock turns to what appears to be schist on the ridge. It feels secure to walk on as it clinks like glass beneath our feet. The first of three false summits appear and we traverse until we spy a descent onto a snow field. With crampons and axes we head down and cross an icy plateau to a final rock scramble and then yeehah the true summit of Mt Adams. The view is pretty average to say the least ha ha. The sun is setting on the Main Divide. Jagged in the Arrowsmiths to the north, D'Archiac just across the valley, Cook, Tasman and Elie de Beaumont to the south. Wow.

Its 5.30pm so it's time for a hasty retreat. Sundown is 6.25, we watch it as it drops into the Tasman sea and at a temperature of 5500 celcius sends clouds of steam streaking skywards as the ocean boils and turns blood red. Well okay it was a sight to behold. We follow John as he glissades down one of last Winters surviving snow patches. A shaggy black Thar watches us then bounds off down the mountainside. Light turns to dark but it is still a warm windless night. Peter points out Jupiter also about to set over the ocean. Shouldn't be problem (maybe lots of ice cubes this time) given the size of this tiddler compared to the sun. Just as we reach for our headtorches the full moon appears from behind us and lights up our ridge. Soon we spy our bivy site, then its dinner and a night of stargazing over the narrow strip of West Coast from Okarito lagoon to the south up to the Waitaha river to the north.

Saturday brings more fine weather, a lot of descending and then a café stop in Hokitika.

An awesome trip you guys.

The Adams family were Mike Rait, John Chambers, Peter Smale and Richard Kimberley.

7 April 2012

Mt Norma

On what was absolutely the most perfect day for a trip into the hills, eleven of us finally arrived at the NZDA hut, across from the Nina Valley and were ready to proceed by about 11am. After crossing the swing bridge we soon left the track and did an easy bush bash up onto the ridge, where we found the remnants of an old track that headed directly up the ridge. The track was unmaintained and occasionally we lost it but there were still plenty of permolat markers and the going was fairly easy. We left the bush about 12:30pm and had a casual and longish break near where some had been camping and just enjoyed the awesome weather, the temperature was perfect, no wind and stunning blue sky's. The trip along the tops was reasonably straightforward and typically lovely for the Lewis area, with excellent views up the Nina Valley and Cannibal Gorge as well as the surrounding mountains. The group became quite spread out along the tops until we recollected at point 1642. Another break was had here enjoying the great vistas and soaking in the perfect weather. Looking across at Norma it was estimated that at least another 30 minutes travel was needed to secure the summit and with the return time added, it may be pushing it to make it there and back to the vehicles before the now earlier time of dusk and so we retraced our steps and with another quick stop near the bush line to regather and enjoy

some more soaking up of this perfect day, we managed to get back to the cars by around 5:30pm. A lovely trip and great views. Oh and did I happen to mention I was a nice day?

Trampers: Bernhard Parawa(Leader), Cryce Curran, Alan Ross, Jim Western, Andrea Zahn, Nikki Wells, Luka Binkle, Bob Ny, Simon Johnson, Cecilia, Rodney Erickson (scribe)

For additional photos, check out Rodneys Blog: <http://roddus.blogspot.co.nz/2012/04/mt-norma-7th-april-2012.html>

6-9 April 2012

Toaroa River, Bluff Hut, Frew Saddle, Hokitika River



West Coast river travel



Fog on Frew Saddle, day 3

This 4-day, horse shoe shaped, West Coast, back country trip near Lake Kaniere was the most demanding I had done in many a year (I was hungry for a week afterwards). And we were so blessed to have had such great weather – I shudder to think of what it would have been like if it had been raining most of the time. As it was, our first 2½ days were under brilliant sunny blue sky, the next 1½ under cloud, and no rain (and no wind) until we were driving back through Kumara. Full moon too. Camping heaven. Few sand flies, until we reached Frew Hut (and then it was all on – you either locked yourself in the hut, or you kept moving or got eaten). Flo remarked that West Coast tramping is much rougher and tougher than East coast tramping - and she was right. Tracks on the map can paint a picture of nice contoured sidling, when in fact the track/route can regularly spike steeply up and down – wasting most of the height temporarily gained and gradually sapping the trampler of energy and speed. And the sloping, slippery rocks, whether they be river boulders or a choke point on the track/route ...

Some trip data. CTC Moderate Trip (at the harder end of Moderate due to terrain, but perhaps not quite a Mod/Hard grading in CTC terms). Thursday night at club hut.

Day 1, 70 minute car shuffle at track start. 2½ hours on good track and river boulders to Cedar Flats, another 6½ hours including extended lunch stop at Cedar Flats and the reconditioned huts to the old Top Toaroa Hut along much rougher track with steep spikes and with more height gain. There is a challenging rock to get up and over en route. Main group reaches hut as night falls. Camping available on soft river bed shingle.

Day 2, ~ 7 (may be more, I am not sure of this) hours of hard effort to reach the effectively new fantastic Bluff Hut over very rough country, particularly in the Mungo valley. The route to Toaroa Saddle sometimes is in the water course – and this could become treacherous in bad weather. Very steep and sustained climb from Mungo River to Bluff Hut with plenty of fallen trees on route. When you reach the overhanging bluffs before reaching the open

area of the hut, you traverse sideways, for what seems like some distance, climbing up and down over obstacles while trying to still go up. Camping available in limited spots near hut on shallow boggy soil.

Day 3, ~ 8 hours to Frew Hut via Frew Saddle. There is at least 1 km of riverbed travel in the upper Frew Creek, which is both interesting and almost impossible to stay upright in without slipping in 1 or more times. The going in days 3 and 4 is now easier compared to Days 1 and 2, but only relatively – you still have to watch out for the regular slippery rocks, deal with sloping rock, miniscule hand and foot holds, patches of mud, tracks that are falling away, hook grass, and the occasional stinging nettle. Good camping beside the modern, well appointed Frew Hut (includes insect screens).

Day 4, ~ 5½ hours to reach Whitcombe Valley Road. Lots of river bed travel (leaping from boulder peak to boulder peak, many boulders massive), a wire bridge to cross above Collier Gorge that has short fixed steel ladders and chains to assist the steep and slippery climb to the bridge, and a fun cableway just downstream of Rapid Creek Hut. The cableway is best used by a group of 2 or more people, so that at least one person at a cableway end can turn a winch there. It is possible to self-winch your way up from the bottom of the sag of the cable to a cableway end if there is only one person in the party, but it is going to take much longer and is not so straight forward. However big the party, one person at a time enters the trolley and crosses – so this can hold up a large party. Hard to remember now, but crossing might take ~ 3 minutes per person for a party of 2 or more. The trolley is to be left in the centre of the cableway by the last person.

Some personal reflections now. Glad to have done it, no need to go back, what a lot of work! This was a back country wild West Coast tramp, no frills, tenting all the way – except for me on the last night at Frew Hilton where I enjoyed a soft mattress, as I had smacked my tailbone in Frew Creek which gave me a head-ache for 5 minutes. (Two weeks later, it is still a bit stiff and sore.) Yet we had a route/track to follow – we count our blessings.

There were 9 of us, ranging from fit and experienced to not experienced and not so fit. Taz (a non-member) had real grit and optimism, and was fitter than he looked, but it was starting to become evident before we reached Cedar Flats that this was not the trip for him at his current level of experience and fitness. (With more experience, fitness, and better gear, he will make a great trumper. His next trip perhaps should be an Easy/Mod trip). It turned out that this was his second only tramp, ever! After Cedar Flats, a support group of 3, including leader Andrew Tromans, formed around Taz. They lightened his already light pack, and they finally reached Top Toaroha Hut an hour after dark – making a 10-hour tramping day for this 4 in some very rugged terrain. After discussions between Trip Leader, Taz, and Taz's minder Martin Brown, it decided that Taz and Martin would stay in the Toaroha Valley and gradually return to the start point by Monday 11am to be picked up in the car shuffle. So even though Taz returned the way he came, he still overcame a demanding tramp back down to Cedar Flats. Well done, Taz.

Memories of that first day and night: the morning to Cedar Flats was pleasant as expected, the afternoon was a rude awakening to back country West Coast tramping, I enjoyed the terrain variety but the continual track "spikes" after Cedar Flats wore down my strength and slowed me up more than I expected, I was thankful that Stu and Flo stayed with me (in the middle group) for encouragement and for Stu's long reach and strength to pull me up passed the "unclimbable" rock, I longed to reach the hut, the moonlight that was so strong and bright especially on the riverbed shingle beside our tents made cooking and unpacking in the dark easy, and the easy company. Thanks Dayle for being a considerate tent mate.

Day 2 memories: leader on my case to get packed (I do take a long time to get ready in the morning), hot lovely day, farewell to Martin and Taz at the saddle, steep descent to Mungo R, getting slower going up to Bluff Hut, forcing myself to have a wash under the tap at the hut because I was so sweaty and smelly and washed my clothes, early to bed for rest, moonlight through the tent, a Kea circling the area while I was in the tent that night (do I retrieve my boots from outside? Nah, I'll take the risk), loud and varied Kea calls on our ridge the next early morning rebounding off the rock faces and the answering calls of Keas on other ridges so soft and distant.

Day 3 memories: leader on my case to get packed (I am much quicker this time, but still fall foul of the ETD), great views from the hut and a few minutes of direct sunshine to dry the tents before we move off, fog sitting on Frew Saddle, dunking myself in Frew Stream, getting a hut bed for a change at Frew Hut and meeting the other group of 4 that were always ahead of us plus another young group of 3 who had crossed from East to West over Whitcombe Pass and were going our way now, more easy going cooking outside the hut in the camping area, early to bed to get rest.

Day 4 memories: leader on my case to get packed (we leave ¾hr before the ETD but he was still on my case!) and wakes up hut in process of shining lights in various people's faces and stomping around (to their annoyance) until he finds me, looking forward to an easier day, sand flies now a problem, the fun of the cableway, the never ending walk on the farm track before reaching the road.

Did I mention giant boulders on the way, river sounds, bird calls, the delight of reaching the road and the cars arriving? Lots of scratches, scrapes, and some blister, plus a sore tailbone. Good selection of food and drink at Hokitika Clock Tower cafe. Back home ~ 6pm.

We were: Andrew Tromans (did a great job of leading the trip and keeping things moving), Lovisa Eriksson, Dayle Drummond (thanks, Dayle, for looking after me), Flo Roberts, Stu Smith, Karl Holdorf, Martin Brown, Taz Mukorombindo, Warwick Dowling (scribe).

Classifieds

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

FOR SALE One thirteenth share in holiday house in Akaroa: Sleeps six, views north to camping ground and childrens bay. 4 weeks a year @ one week every thirteenth, Tuesday to Tuesday. More info ph tx 0272604096 Martin Thomson

External Events

Heights of Winter Rogaine, Saturday 30th June: Prepare yourselves for some mid-winter fun. Information on the annual Heights of Winter in North Canterbury is now available on the NZRA website, <http://www.rogaine.org.nz>. The date coincides with a full moon. There are 12hr and 6hr options. The terrain is varied ranging from gentle hills to steep and rugged hill-country with an elevation range of 500m. Vegetation is a mix of clean open grassland, scattered scrub, open native forest, and some plantations. An enthusiastic organising team is out planning the course in North Canterbury as we speak. On-line entries will commence in mid-May.

More about the CTC

Club Officers

<i>President:</i>	Warwick Dowling	981-2045	<i>Day Trip Organiser:</i>	Antony White	381-5993
<i>Senior Vice President:</i>	Alan Ross	384-6425	<i>Weekend Trip Organiser:</i>	Thomas Matern	354-4309
<i>Junior Vice President:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Jim Western	377 5431
<i>Secretary:</i>	Li Li	021 236 3211	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Thomas Matern	354-4309
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Andrea Zahn	382 1044	<i>Editor:</i>	Sam Cook	3227793
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Adrian Busby	325-5001	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Steve Bruerton	322-6196
<i>New Members Reps:</i>	David Cockeram Liz Van Ekeris	337-0948			

Our Club Hut: In the Arthur's Pass township, with all the comforts of home including real showers and inside flushing loos (BYO toilet paper!), but with the mountains at the back door. A great place for a few days away; take your usual gear and a pillowcase. Please book before leaving town to ensure there is a bunk available. For keys and bookings, phone Bernhard Parawa 981 4931; 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 the hut convenor, Steve Bruerton, ph 322 6196.

Equipment Hire: The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Thomas Matern, ph. 354-4309. Note: club gear assigned to you is your responsibility; please take care of it. Please make sure you put tents inside your pack. Tents attached to the outside of your pack can be easily punctured when bush bashing or even lost. This may result in serious damage to your bank account! Please air and dry tents after taking them on a trip even if they are not used, and report any damage to the gear custodian.

Rates for Gear Hire:

Tent	\$3/person/night
Ice axes, crampons	\$4 per weekend
Harnesses, snow shovel	\$4 per weekend
Large/small weekend packs	\$2 per weekend
Helmets	Free
Personal locator beacons	Free

Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor
(editor@ctc.org.nz) by 27 May 2012 – Thanks.
