



OVER FORTIES TRAMPING CLUB NEWSLETTER 481 MAY 2022



G2 trampers make a guard of honour for mountain bikers on the Hogsback, April 13. Photo Pamela Gibbons



Ian Fussell led our trip to Kahurangi (March 28-April 1). One night at Quinneys Bush, into Gravity Pass hut for three nights. Trips to Mt Owen, Lookout range and surrounding area. Great scenery in perfect weather. Howard Anderson

Reminder: OFTC Covid 19 policy changes

Following the government announcement to remove vaccine pass requirements and most vaccination mandates from 4 April, the OFTC committee reviewed the club's Covid-19 policy.

- It has been decided to drop our vaccination mandate for members participating in club activities from 4 April 2022.
- The use of masks is still considered to be an effective way of limiting the transmission of the virus and therefore masks will remain obligatory for car travel.

If members want to travel in their own car to the start of the tramp, then please let the Tramp Leader know at the meeting point.

And as always: If you are unwell, please stay at home!

Thank you.

Edith Goesmann
edithgoesmann@gmail.com

Note the deadline for Newsletter items to the Editor is the 20th of every month for the following month's Newsletter—send to Mavis Airey at mavis.airey@xtra.co.nz AND Terry Stevens at terendy2@gmail.com

Trip details by the 15th of every month to Trip Collators: Saturday and Sunday trips to Vicki Steven—421 0060 mob 022 130 4342 vicki_steven2005@yahoo.com.au Wednesday trips to Vicki Grace—vicki.grace@harcourts.co.nz Ph: 027 201 2231

Please note — address all correspondence pertaining to Club business to the Secretary, in the first instance by email (secretary@oftc.org.nz)

Over Forties Tramping Club, PO Box 6505, Upper Riccarton, Christchurch 8442
Established 1978 Affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ
www.oftc.org.nz

CHAIR'S REPORT

I thoroughly enjoyed joining groups of our different tramping grades lately and it enabled me to meet members that I had not met before. As I settle into my new role, I realise just how many committed members across the club help out in so many ways. This gave me the idea of creating a new feature for *Going Places*: The plan is that each month members can nominate someone who contributes to making our club a better place. I would like to call the column "Our Club". This month I would like to kick off by introducing Peter Oliver, our treasurer.

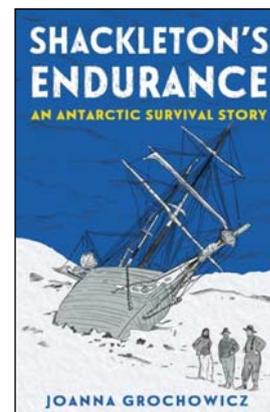
Another column that I would like to bring to life is a space for book recommendations. It seems that many of our members are avid readers and discussions about books are frequent topics while tramping. Members are encouraged to recommend books that are somehow related to the outdoors. The focus could be on adventure, flora and fauna, geography, conservation, history about tramping destinations, etc. Recommended books can be fiction or nonfiction. Once again, this month I will start off by recommending a book that I enjoyed recently. However, in the future, it would be great if you could send an email to edithgoesmann@gmail.com if you would like to nominate a member for the "Our Club" section and/or recommend a book. I look forward to receiving many replies!

Ian Fussell, Stu McHugh, and Gary Batchelor have until recently very ably assisted Peter Oliver with the testing of the club beacons. Both Ian and Stu have asked to be relieved and are replaced by Charlie Ledbrook and Graeme Matheson. Let's pass a vote of thanks to Ian and Stu for the years they have been doing these tests for the club, with little acknowledgement.

Lastly, the date for the next AGM has now been confirmed - it will be held on 7th March 2023. Enjoy the late autumn.

Edith Goesmann

Book Recommendation



Ernest Shackleton's remarkable story is a terrifying Antarctic adventure featuring an explorer who was a true polar hero and who displayed extraordinary leadership. Nonfiction. Available at CCC Libraries

Our Club: Peter Oliver

Peter has been the club's treasurer for almost three years. Autumn is an extra busy time of year for an OFTC treasurer as members renew their subscriptions. Each payment involves an update (in Excel) of both the accounts and the members' list. Preparing accounts for the AGM occurs annually but there is activity most weeks of the year, with payments being set up for authorisation and other tasks. When asked about the workload and the challenges of his role Peter humbly smiled and replied: "you always know that with double entry accounting, as long as it balances, it works".



Peter is also the club's beacon coordinator. Each month he compiles a plan of beacon use, indicating the leader, the date, the tramp location, and which outlet the beacon is available from. This plan is then emailed to the three responders (Peter is one of them) and the testers. Our nine beacons across three petrol stations are each registered with the Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC). If a beacon is activated, the RCC calls a responder to confirm it is a club beacon. Each beacon requires two monthly battery tests, and 12 monthly satellite acquisition tests, a task that Peter carries out with the assistance of two other beacon testers.

And if this wasn't enough Peter also leads some Grade 3 tramps and at the time of writing has just led a group of trampers up to Woolshed Hill.

Thank you Peter, the skills that you bring to the club and your meticulous work are invaluable!

Membership Report

20 April 2022

New members:

Ross Paterson: 027 260 8106
Alicia Warren: 021 545 343
Wendy Nelson: 022 016 7780
Mary Ann Halliday: 021 067 3073

Returning Members:

Lynn Waring (rejoining from May 2021); 021 029 83663

Resignations (years in OFTC)

Cyril Fifield (20)	Toni Adams (0.6)	Lois Watson (16)
Sandra Hawkins (12)	Norma Powell (44)	Sarah Archer (6)
Allen Newble (19)	Philip Bayliss (11)	Andrew Kim (22)
Robyn Lester (1)		

Contact detail changes

Barbro Guard: 021 0831 5199
Jack Watt: new physical address (will be noted in next Membership Book); 027 200 2380
Dave Collins: 022 080 2622
Sue Hely: sue.hely@forster.net.nz
Tony Oliver: tonyshan183@gmail.com

Membership:

Total = 414 (Female – 250; Male – 164)

Judy Collin

MAY 25 BIKE RIDE

Variation on Malvern Hills Circuit 42kms

Cost: TBC

The Malvern Hills bike ride will be leaving Sheffield at 9.00 am. The route will be a circuit approximately 42 kms for "muscle bikes". There will be a slightly longer version for e-bikes with the intention that both groups will meet for coffee and pies back in Sheffield. Further details will be provided on the website when David has had a chance to ride these routes and measure times and distance. The variations will accommodate both proper bikes, and e-bikes.

Grade: Moderate/ Easy

Depart: Sheffield @9am

Duration: 42 kms for proper bikes and slightly longer for e-bikes

Leader: David Jones 027 288 5845

DAY TRIP PROGRAMME

The tramps are listed in order of difficulty, with the easiest first, then moderate, then harder.
If you are unsure of a tramp please check with the tramp leader.

NQ means that this tramp is not a qualifying tramp for prospective new members.
All other day tramps grade 2 and above are qualifying tramps.
Travel costs for trips are calculated at three passengers per car.

Please note: It is club policy that these day tramps and the tramping programmes detailed in the newsletter are for members only.
Also **times given are indicative only** and do not include car travel to and from the tramp.

CANCELLATIONS

**Go to the OFTC
website home page -
Cancellation Notices.**

TRAMP PLANNERS

Note — Please forward your draft list to the Club Captain by the 20th of each month

Saturday

Wednesday	Veterans	Alec Mills	338 5002
	Grade 1		
	Grade 2	Pamela Gibbons	332 7531
		Graeme Brown	383 3732
		Carol Eddington	021 045 3170
		John Corbett	348 3158
	Grade 3	Peter Moody	351 7448
		Peter Glasson	021 324 954
	Grade 4		
Sunday	Grade 1	Judy Eden	027 472 6538
	Grade 2	Heather & Alan Robertson	021 181 6019
		Pip Clark	027 331 1739
		Helen Rutledge & Garry Roberts	021 289 8491
	Grade 3, 4 & 5	Ross Walker	027 558 2126
		Lesley Smith	338 4272
		Alison Downard	357 2089
		Peter Moore	027 773 1670

SUNDAY TRAMPS**MAY 1****Heathcote Heritage and Hidden Gems**

Cost : nil
From Ferrymead to Risingholme, focussing on places of historical interest, parks and wildlife. 16km circuit, or bus back last part.
Grade : 1 NQ
Depart : Settlers Cres by Tussock Lane in Ferrymead at 9.00am
Time : 4-5hr
Leaders : Mavis Airey 027 529 3631 & John Kelly 021 185 9108

Cuckoo Creek-Cockayne Alley Loop (W139)

Cost : \$30
From Texas Flat follow Dracophyllum Track to Cuckoo Creek. Ascend to ski field and continue to middle car park. Take Cockayne Alley Track til it rejoins Dracophyllum Flat Track. Fantastic views on a sunny day.
Grade : 2
Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel 9:00am
Time : 4-5 hours
Leader : Chris Evans 361 1186/ 027 303 0838

Cloudy Hill Mt Lyndon Loop W005B

Cost : \$24
Park at A Frame at Lake Lyndon, skirt the north pond then climb east spur of Cloudy Hill. Walk the ridge top to Pt 1456, make a steep descent on scree to a saddle then climb direct to Mt Lyndon summit. Descend directly to north end of Lake Lyndon (and cars) by the usual route. This trip has two steep ascents, one of which is 30-40 min on loose scree.
Grade : 3
Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8.00 am
Time : 5-6 hours
Leader : Peter Moore 027 773 1670
Co-leader : David Jones 027 288 5845

Reminders to Tramp Leaders**TO CANCEL A DAY TRAMP**

Go to OFTC website and log in. Click on *Members* section, then click on *Cancellations* on the left hand side list. Type your message into the dialog box then click save. **CANCELLATIONS MUST BE DONE 1½ HOURS BEFORE DEPARTURE.**

Any changes to your trip or equipment requirements should be placed 12 hours in advance. Leaders are no longer required to go to the start meeting place provided this has been notified earlier

LOCATOR BEACONS

Collect and carry these. **Please note** — they are collected from the Z Service Stations at Belfast or Barrington and Mobil at Yaldhurst. For any private use of these beacons please contact Peter Oliver to arrange (027 438 5082).

AT THE END OF THE TRAMP

Please send the number of participants to:
Sally Timms salgav@xtra.co.nz)

MAY 8**Grade 1**

Meet at cnr Ashgrove Tce / Ferniehurst St at 9.00am.
Decide on a walk and leader on the day.

Packhorse from Gebbies Pass (BP12)

Cost : \$6
Fairly easy walk from top of Gebbies Pass through plantations and farms to Packhorse for lunch. Original track changed due to logging and now a little more demanding than previously. This is a Mothers Day tramp, so bring shared lunch.
Grade : 2 Time : 4-5 hours
Depart : Ferniehurst Tce/Ashgrove Tce 9:00am.
Leader : Pippa Clark 027 331 1739

Okuti Valley to Montgomery Peak BP31A

Cost : \$18
From the Okuti Valley head up the Okuti Track to Hilltop. Continue around to Montgomery Park and up to Montgomery Peak for Lunch, then return same way. Approx 19 km. Bring extra water as no water is available on this track.
Grade : 3 Time : 6 hours
Depart : Cnr Ashgrove Tce and Ferniehurst St, 8.30 am
Leader : Sue Weller 021 194 9550

MAY 15**Bowenvale to Victoria Park**

Cost : Nil
Various tracks at an easy pace.
Grade : 1 Time : 4 hrs NQ
Depart : Meet at end of Bowenvale Ave at 9,00am
Leader : Val Armstrong 384 3391 & Mary Brinsdon 366 9119, 027 220 6270

Hidden Valley Conservation Trust Purau- Port Levy Rd. (new tramp)

Cost : \$9
Steep track through regenerating bush on a new conservation covenant. Great rock formations and views back over Lyttelton Harbour.
Grade : 2 Time : 5 hours
Depart : Ferniehurst St/Ashgrove Tce 9:00am
Leader : Vicki Steven 022 1304 342 Co-leader TBA

MAY 15 CONTINUED

Woolshed creek via Bus Stop W040

Cost : \$37

From Woolshed Creek car park, an initially steep climb to Bus Stop, view point on lower slopes of Mt Somers, continue sidling before dropping down to the waterfall and hut. Return via old coal mine.

Grade : 3 Time : 6 hours

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8.00 am

Leader : Jill Halliburton 021 022 67556

Mt Cockayne W085

Cost : \$29

From locked gate at Tim's Stream, follow Cheeseman Skifield Rd to spur west of road, climb over point 1722 m to the range. Traverse to Mt Cockayne (1874 m). Descend via skifield back to road. Gate to Cheeseman access road, off SH 73, is unlocked. Car access to Tim's Stream. Park at Texas flat.

Grade : 4 Time : 6 hours

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8.00 am

Leader : Required

MAY 22

Saddle Hill and Bossu Rd

Cost : \$20

Drive up to Bossu Rd from Little River, tramp Saddle Hill walk and if time explore Devis Gap. Fabulous views.

Grade : 1 Time : 3-4 hrs NQ

Depart : Meet at cnr Ashgrove Tce / Ferniehurst St at 9.00am. Or if meeting at Tai Tapu contact Judy.

Leader : Judy Eden 027 472 6538

Peak Hill (WO42)

Cost : \$30

We will meet up with the base camp at Middle Rock. From Yaldhurst head out SH73 and go through Hororata and head through to 1160 Coleridge road.. Middle Rock is approx 4 km on the right after golf course.

Grade : 2 Time : 4-5 hours

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel 8.30 am (NB earlier time)

Leader : From Yaldhurst, Selena Chan 027 301 5501 From Middle Rock, Garry Roberts 349 7875

Camp Saddle W010

Cost : \$30

From the shelter near Highway 73 take track through bush to Lyndon saddle with optional side trip to Helicopter hill, then along to base of Camp saddle. Steep climb up the rocky slope to Camp Saddle (no track), traverse along rocky ridge, then take a scree run to re-join track at Lyndon Saddle. A fun trip with a little bit of everything.

Grade : 3 Time : 6 hours

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8.00 am

Leader : Evelyn Sheridan 027 228 0754

MAY 29

Tirimoana. The Easier Route!

Cost : \$12

Will be taken on a less arduous version of this walk.

Grade : 1 Time : 4 hrs NQ

Depart : Meet at Belfast Hotel at 9.00am

Leader : Annemarie Wichmann 027 432 6206 & Digby Scorgie 03 312 0096

Tirimoana Bush Walkway (N56)

Cost : \$12

Downhill from Mt Cass carpark through pine plantation to beach. Spectacular views of Pegasus Bay from lookout. Continue Wetlands/Kate pond turnoff. Back via wetlands to car-park.

Grade : 2 Time : 4-5 hours

Depart : Belfast Hotel at 9:00am

Leader : Jenny Owens 021 027 04522

Co-leader : Helen Rutledge 021 289 8491

Mt Thomas Wooded Gully Track N10

Cost : \$16

From car park, climb through bush to saddle, along tussock tops to Mt Thomas summit (1023m, height gain 573 m). Fast return down Summit track.

Grade : 3 Time : 5- 5.5 hours

Depart : Belfast Hotel Carpark 8.30 am

Leader : Alison Ford 021 077 6932

MAY 29 CONTINUED

Black Hill Range W092

Cost : \$34

Steady climb from hut on Black Hill Station (900m), to Black Hill (2067m) in open country. Views of Aoraki, Arrowsmith Range and Lake Coleridge.

Grade : 4 Time : 6 - 7 hours

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.30am

Leader : Ross Walker 027 558 2126

WEDNESDAY TRAMPS

For Grade 1, check the Club website

MAY 4

Park River and Gardens NQ

Cost: Nil

Millbrook Reserve, Hagley Park, Mona Vale, Botanic Gardens.

Depart: Millbrook Reserve at 9-30am

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Helen Chan 351 9888 021 750 085

Orton Bradley, Waterfall, Lookout BP53

Walk up to the waterfall via Valley Track, then along to the lookout and back along Hunter Gully Track.

Cost: \$7 plus \$10/car Orton Bradley entrance fee

Grade: 2 Time: 4.5-5 hours

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 8.30am

Leader: Michel Adriaens, 3327 531

Mt Somers Cross Over South Face (SW11)

Cost \$30.90

Cross over tramp with key swap. One group from Staveley (Sharplin Falls) car park taking south route over Hookey Knob; other group from Woolshed Creek carpark (Jig road), taking route up Rhyolite ridge to join south track. Sharp elevation gain approx. 700m from each end (climb from Sharplin Falls end more sustained). Varied terrain with great views. DOC shelter (Acland Shelter) about midway. Total distance approx 13kms.

Grade: 3

Depart: Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8am

Duration: 6+ hours

Leader: Kaye Young 021 025 68702 CO-LEADER REQUIRED

MAY 11

Otakaro-Avon River and Waimairi Stream NQ

Cost: Nil

Walk headwaters Ilam stream to Ilam; return by a different route. At Avonhead Park find a source spring and follow stream through various parks and streets to Ilam. Return following Waimairi Stream.

Depart: Avonhead Cemetery car park off Hawthornden Rd 9-30am

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Howard Harvey 342 9377 021 136 3043

Mt Herbert from Purau Saddle BP59

Well defined undulating walkway. Panoramic views of Pegasus, the plains, harbour and peninsula.

Cost: \$11

Grade: 2 Time: 5 hours

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 8.30 am

Leader: Ken Francis, 348 9878, 027 325 1280

Wharfedale Saddle (NW19) Cost: \$18

From View Hill, initially follow Wharfedale Track then steepish climb towards Mt Oxford. Take track on left towards Wharfedale Hut (sign-posted at Pt 1130) then left at Pt 975 to Wharfedale Saddle. From saddle turn left and follow Wharfedale Track back to View Hill. The track from Pt975 to the Wharfedale Saddle has been marked with pink cruise tape but, at the time of writing (August 2020) it is a route rather than an obvious track. We (OFTC) will clear it if we get DOC approval but, meantime, it is still quite easily negotiated. No significant water until heading down from the Saddle. Toilet at View Hill Carpark. Ford on the road into View Hill carpark can be tricky after rain - no low slung vehicles. An OK tramp in adverse weather as it's nearly all in bush.

Grade: 3 Duration: 6+ hours

Depart: Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8am

Leader: Jenny Hoffman 021 230 7577

MAY 11 CONTINUED

Mt Cockayne (WO85)

Cost: \$27.30

From end of road by locked gate at Tim's Stream, follow Cheeseman ski field Rd to spur west of road, climb over point 1722M to range. Traverse to Mt Cockayne (1874M); descend via ski field back to road. Gate to skifield access road off SH 73 unlocked, car access clear to Tim's Stream. Park at Texas flat, walk up skifield rd, pick a route through bush to point 1265, and follow on up ridge to Mt Cockayne. Good scree run down to Tim's stream.

Grade: 4 Duration: 6 hours

Depart: Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8am

Co-Leaders: Graeme Kerr (027 433 9055) & Sharyn Foster (021 038 4279)

MAY 18

Huntsbury Hill Track NQ

Cost: \$2

Pool cars drive to start of track. Walk a gradual climb, taken slowly on a 4wd track to Summit Rd. Return various tracks.

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 9.30am

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Eileen McGrade 9427380

Allendale, Living Springs, CRW, Bellbird, Governors Bay Loop. PH21

A clockwise variation on PH21 incorporating some little known tracks. From Allendale walk up to Living Springs, then up to the CRW, along to Bellbird, down to O'Farrells Track, and Ngaio Track to Governors Bay, then down another track to the Head of the Harbour then back to Allendale.

Cost: \$4

Grade: 2 Time: 5 hours

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 8.30am.

Leader: Gavin Hampton, 343 1291

Co Leader: Christine Webber, 027 713 1106

Parapet Rock to Castle Hill Village (WO31A)

Cost: \$28.50

MTB track from Parapet Rock to Castle Hill Village via Hogsback. (Carry on from the Flock Hill to Parapet Rock, W031 refers). From Parapet Rock adj. Highway follow MTB track uphill, along ridge towards environment centre. Through holiday houses to Broken River skifield road at Jacks Pass then Dracophyllum flat track to Texas flat. Follow Hogs Back track to Castle Hill Village. Starting from Parapet Rock end adjacent Highway 73, this trip requires car shuttle with a vehicle left at Castle Hill Village. Proceed to MTB track heading towards Hogsback and follow to Castle Hill Village.

Grade: 3

Depart: Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8am

Duration: 5+ hours

Leader: Edith Goesmann 021 801 718

MAY 25

Halswell Quarry Park NQ

Cost: Nil

Follow various tracks in the park. Uphill tracks taken slowly.

Depart: Halswell Quarry main car park 9.30am.

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Alec Mills 3385002

Sumner/Godley Head Loop PH04

From Sumner, through Nicholson Park, around the cliffs to Taylors Mistake, then various tracks to Godley Head & return to Sumner. Wonderful views.

Cost: Nil

Grade: 2 Time: 5 hours

Depart: Sumner Clock Tower at 8.30am.

Leaders: Susie Messent, 021 027 04761, Clark Pollitt, 021 034 4054

Evans Pass to Ahuriri via CRW (Key swap) (PH96)

Cost: \$6

Evans Pass to Ahuriri Bush and vice versa on CRW - cross over tramp with key swap midway. One group starts Evans Pass/Godley Head intersection. Other starts Ahuriri Bush, just over cattle-stop on Summit Rd (approx. 8kms from Sign of Kiwi past Omahu Bush Reserve sign). Some steep sections, more climbing from Evans Pass end, approx 900m. Mostly exposed, some bush. Great views. Groups meet for lunch midway (about Scott Bush Reserve). Distance approx 22kms.

Grade: 4 (due to length) Duration: 7 hours

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 8am

Leader: LEADER & CO-LEADER REQUIRED

MAY 25 CONTINUED

Mt. Iazard via Mt. Cheeseman (W104A)

Cost: \$24

About 6.5-7 hours or more if you go to Mt Cheeseman, starting and finishing on the Cheeseman ski field road where it is crossed by the Hogsback track. Initially a steep climb on tussock then some rocky ridge work along exposed ridges before descending long ridge to Hogsback. An alternative is to descend into Waterfall creek. Ice axes and crampons will be required in winter.

Grade: 4

Depart: Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark 8am

Duration: 6.5+ hours

Leader: Graeme Kerr 027 433 9055

Club Captain's Noticeboard

Backpacking Grading:

Recently, Gerald Edmunds and I did a review of the Backpacking Grading system and oversight was provided by the committee. This updates the Backpacking grading given on page 21 in the Handbook for Members. Essentially we have added a new category EASY/MODERATE which was done in response to a suggestion by members that there need to be more overnights suitable for Grade 2 trampers. On pages 6-7 of *Going Places* is the schedule Backpacking and Basecamps 2022-2023 and Gerald has revised the grade of some of the tramps to EASY/MODERATE. He has also done a great job adding more information about each tramp, making it much easier for members to decide whether a tramp is suitable or not.

In a nutshell if you are a Grade 2 trampler or a Grade 3 trampler who prefers the easier Grade 3 day tramps then EASY/MODERATE overnights will suit you. Tramping is from hut to hut, there will short days or rest days after a couple of 5 to 6 hour days, maybe river crossings and altitude gain will not be too much.

To do a MODERATE overnight tramp you need to be a Grade 4 trampler or a strong Grade 3 trampler and be capable of doing multiple days of tramping up to 7 hours per day.

EASY

Up to 4 hours tramping with a full backpack, primarily on marked tracks, mostly staying in huts and generally away for two days and one night. Tramps typically follow straightforward well-marked tracks through forest and poled routes along river flats or over low passes. No river crossings will be involved

Experience: Suitable for those who have done very little tramping. This is a time to learn tramping skills rather than using all of them.

Fitness: Generally walking on well-formed tracks over easy terrain with no river crossings.

EASY/MODERATE

Up to 5 hours tramping with a full backpack, primarily on marked tracks and mostly staying in huts. Tramp will usually involve staying at each hut that is passed. For tramps more than two days there will be included a rest day or a day of no more than 3-4 hours tramping. Typically follow straightforward well-marked tracks through forest, and poled routes along river flats or over low passes or on tussock tops. River crossings might be involved. No more than 500m altitude gain.

Experience: Suitable for those who have done some tramping. Will have learnt some map-reading and route-finding skills as well as some river crossing skills.

Fitness: Need to be capable of tramping over a wide variety of terrain.

MODERATE

Up to 7 hours tramping with a full backpack. May be off track and may require tenting. Typically involve straightforward alpine passes and follow a well-known track or route. These can involve travelling along riverbeds and/or on alpine tops.

Experience: Must have tramping experience, and be competent at map-reading and route-finding. An ice-axe may be required in winter and spring and experience at river crossing is essential.

Fitness: Need to be capable of tramping over a wide variety of terrain for multiple days at this level.

Continued on Page 7

Backpacking and Basecamps 2022

Dates	Venue	Nights	Grade	Leader
Fri 29- Sat 30 April	Comyns Hut, Hakatere	1	Easy/Mod	Chrissy McCausland chrimccausland@xtra.co.nz
Sat 14-Sun 15 May	Kowhai Hut, Kaikoura	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
4 hour tramp. (6 bunks; \$5 per night). 366 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Fri 20-Sun 22 May	Base camp at Middle Rock Farm Rakaia Valley <i>The list of campers is full</i>	2	Moderate	Garry Roberts 3497875/0273497865 garrymarie@xtra.co.nz
Sun 15-Wed 18 May	Avoca Hut, Craigieburn	3	Easy/Mod	Neville Palmer 3479217/021550660 nevillepalmer@rocketmail.com
Day 1: 6 hours to Basins Hut (6 bunks; \$5 per night). Day 2: 3 hours to Avoca Hut (6 bunks; free; has an outdoor bath that can be heated). Mostly flat with river crossings. explore the head waters of the Avoca River. Days 3 and 4: reverse of the first two days. 216 kms.				
Fri 27-Sat 28 May	Magdalen Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Chrissy McCausland chrimccausland@xtra.co.nz
4 hour mostly flat tramp. (5 bunks; \$5 per night). 318 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 11-Sun 12 Jun	Mt Fyffe Hut, Kaikoura	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
3 - 4 hour tramp.(8 bunks; \$5 per night). 366 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Tue 21-Wed 22 Jun	Boyle Flat Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Jill Halliburton 374973/02102267556 jillhb@globe.net.nz
5 hour mostly flat tramp (14 bunks; \$15 per night). 318 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 26-Mon 27 Jun	Carlyle Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy/Mod	Gerald Edmunds 3426331/02108270228 agedmunds@outlook.com
4 hour tramp involving river crossings. (8 bunks; free). 286 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 16-Sun 17 Jul	Ces Clark Hut, West Coast	1	Moderate	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
5 hour tramp with 500 metres elevation gain. (16 bunks; \$45 per night). 480 kms return travel by vehicle.				
31 Jul-Mon 1 Aug	Tribulation Hut, Hakatere	1	Easy	Gerald Edmunds 3426331/02108270228 agedmunds@outlook.com
4 hour tramp to an old musterers' hut. (6 bunks; free). 190 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 13-Sun 14 Aug	Magdalen Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
4 hour mostly flat tramp.(5 bunks; \$5 per night). 318 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 21-Mon 22 Aug	Casey Hut, Poulter Valley, Arthurs Pass	1	Moderate	Denise Cumberpatch 3832661/0273403299 dryrot@xtra.co.nz
6 - 8 hour tramp. (12 bunks; \$15 per night). 230 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 4-Wed 7 Sep	Top Hope Hut, Lake Sumner	3	Moderate	Denise Cumberpatch 3832661/0273403299 dryrot@xtra.co.nz
Day 1: 8 hour tramp to Hope Kiwi Lodge. (20 bunks; \$15 per night). Day 2: 3 hour tramp to Top Hope Hut (6 bunks; free) with time to explore the upper Hope Valley and try the hot springs. Days 3 and 4 are the reverse of the first two. 216 kms return.				
Sat 10-Sun 11 Sep	Boyle Flat Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
5 hour mostly flat tramp. (14 bunks; \$15 per night). 318 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 18-Mon 19 Sep	Hawdon Hut, Arthurs Pass	1	Easy/Mod	Peter Coursey 3324833/0210343183 pkcoursey@gmail.com
4 hour tramp involving three river crossings. (20 bunks; \$15 per night). 230 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 15-Sun 16 Oct	Nina Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
3 hour mostly flat tramp in a valley with a lot of bird life. (10 bunks; \$5 per night). 350 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 16-Tue 18 Oct	Ahuriri Valley	3	Moderate	Peter Moody 3517448/0212572031 Pmoody007@gmail.com
A maximum of 6 people, some of whom will have to sleep in tents. A tramp involving river crossings. 700 kms travel by vehicle.				
Mon 17-Wed 19 Oct	Woolshed Creek Hut, Mt Somers	2	Easy/Mod	Jill Halliburton 374973/02102267556 jillhb@globe.net.nz
3 - 4 hour tramp to a bookable hut (\$15 per night). Day 2: side tramps in the area. 228 kms travel by vehicle.				
Mon 31 Oct-Thu 3 Nov	Paparoa Track, West Coast	3	Mod	David Jones 0272885845 ballymol@xtra.co.nz
4 day tramp involving about 20 hours of tramping. Hut fees: \$45 per night.				
Sat 19-Sun 20 Nov	Woolshed Creek Hut, Mt Somers	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
3 - 4 hour tramp to a bookable hut (\$20 per night). 228 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 19-Fri 25 Nov	Golden Bay base camp	6	Easy/Mod	Sue Weller 0211949550 suzmweller@hotmail.com
Sun 27-Wed 30 Nov	McKenzie Hut, Lake Sumner	3	Moderate	Gerald Edmunds 3426331/02108270228 agedmunds@outlook.com
Day 1: 5 - 6 hour tramp to Hurunui Hut (15 bunks; \$5 per night). Day 2: 5 hour tramp involving river crossings to McKenzie Hut (6 bunks; free) which has a natural hot pool nearby. Days 3 and 4: reverse of the first two. 232 kms travel.				
Sun 4 -Mon 5 Dec	Nina Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Jenny Hoffman 0212307577 jennybarbarah@gmail.com
3 hour mostly flat tramp in a valley with a lot of bird life. (10 bunks; \$5 per night). 350 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 10-Sun 11 Dec	Jolliebrook Hut, Lake Sumner	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
4 hour tramp. (7 bunks; \$5 per night). 216 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat 10-Wed 14 Dec	John Tait Hut, Nelson Lakes	3	Moderate	Jill Halliburton 374973/02102267556 jillhb@globe.net.nz

Backpacking and Basecamps 2023

Dates	Venue	Nights	Grade	Leader
Sat 21-Sun 22 Jan	Pinnacles Hut, Mt Somers	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
3 hour tramp to a bookable 19 bunk hut. (19 bunks; \$20 per night). 204 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Tue 24 – Wed 25 Jan	Manson-Nicholls Hut, Lake Daniels, Lewis Pass	1	Easy	Jill Halliburton 3374973/02102267556 jillhb@globe.net.nz
3 hour tramp to a bookable hut (\$15 per night). 384 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 12-Mon 13 Feb	Youngman Stream Hut – Tarn Hut circuit, Lees Valley	1	Moderate	Denise Cumberpatch 3832661/0273403299 dryrot@xtra.co.nz
Day 1: 5 hour tramp to Youngman Stream Hut (6 bunks; \$5 per night). Day 2: 5 hour tramp via Tarn Hut. 160 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sat-Sun 19 Feb	Hawdon Hut, Arthurs Pass	1	Easy/Mod	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
4 hour tramp involving three river crossings. (20 bunks; \$15 per night). 230 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 26 Feb – Thurs 2 Mar	Carrington Hut – Waimakariri Falls Hut – Barker Hut, Arthurs Pass	4	Mod	Kaye Young 3296187/02102568702 rbkmyoung@xtra.co.nz
Day 1: 6 hour tramp involving river crossings to Carrington Hut (36 bunks, \$15 per night). Nights 2 and 3 at Waimakariri Falls Hut (6 bunk, donations) and Barker Hut (10 bunks, donations). Night 4 at Carrington Hut. Day 5 to vehicles. 254 kms travel by vehicle.				
Sat 11-Sun 12 Mar	Ada Pass Hut, Lewis Pass	1	Easy/Mod	Dean Stewart 0273646877 Stewy989@gmail.com
5 hour tramp. (14 bunks; \$15 per night). 380 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Fri 10-Sat 18 Mar	Te Anau base camp	7	Grades 3 & 4	Marcel Robb Marcel.robb@gmail.com
Sun 26-Tue 28 Mar	Cookies Hut, Hakatere	2	Easy/Mod	Edith Goesmann 3837924/021801718 edithgoesmann@gmail.com
5 hour tramp involving river crossings to an ex-musterers' hut (6 bunks; free). Day 2 exploring the area around the hut. 190 kms.				
Fri 31 Mar-Sat 1 Apr	Boundary Creek Hut, Hakatere	1	Easy/Mod	Gerald Edmunds 3426331/02108270228 agedmunds@outlook.com
A 5 hour tramp to an ex-musterers' hut (8 bunks; free). 250 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 16-Tue 18 Apr	Kirwans Hut – Montgomerie Hut circuit	2	Moderate	Edith Goesmann 3837924/021801718 edithgoesmann@gmail.com
Day 1: 6 hour tramp to Kirwans Hut (12 Bunks, \$15 per night). day 2: 4 hours to Montgomerie hut (6 bunks, \$5 per night). Day 3: 4hour tramp to the vehicles. 500 kms return travel by vehicle.				
Sun 30 Apr-Mon 1 May	Crow Hut, Arthurs Pass	1	Easy/Mod	Kaye Young 3296187/02102568702 rbkmyoung@xtra.co.nz
4 hour tramp involving river crossings. (10 bunks; \$5 per night). 254 kms return travel by vehicle.				

Backpacking Tramps Confirmation System

Due to members withdrawing from backpacking tramps at late stages the committee decided the following conditions will apply:

- That a deposit of \$25 be paid to the leader no later than 6 weeks prior to departure if advertised more than 3 months ahead, otherwise at time of booking.
- The deposit will be non-refundable except in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the leader.
- Although the confirmation date will be advertised the actual tramp date will remain sufficiently flexible to allow changes to be made on account of the weather etc.

Gerald Edmunds
Tel: 342 6331 or
agedmunds@outlook.com
Base Camp and Backpacking Co-ordinator

Club Captain's Noticeboard continued

HARD

7+ hours tramping with a full backpack. Often off track and on challenging terrain with occasional use of huts and often tenting. Routes are largely untracked, following stream beds, bush spurs and rocky tops. Typically involve crossing high alpine passes into seldom visited areas.

Experience: Navigation skills are essential, as is experience in bush-bashing, tops travel, route finding, river crossing and rock scrambling. An ice-axe and crampons are often required, even in summer.

Fitness: Trips will often require more than eight hours of strenuous tramping per day.

Basic Snow Skills Course:

This course is now full however if anyone else is interested please get in touch. There is no wait list and if one of the participants pulls out due to illness a place will be available.

NZ Tramp Intentions Form to be completed for all overnight private tramps by club members taking a club beacon:

This can be found under Forms in the Members section of the website. The committee has decided that any club member who borrows a club beacon for an overnight tramp whether a private tramp or a club tramp completes the form and emails it to Gerald Edmunds on agedmunds@outlook.com. He will then forward it on to the three club members, who are responders if the Rescue Coordination Centre gets in touch, when one of the club beacons is set off. Secondly, on private tramps, club beacons may only be taken for tramps of 1-6 nights and are subject to availability.

Finally a big thank you to those members who have entered their name and the date they led a tramp onto the Tramp Map Database under "Add Tramp Leader". It is really helpful for future Tramp Leaders if they know of someone to contact who is already familiar with that tramp.

Kaye Young

Welcome Flat Copland Valley, March 2022

This trip had not been done by the club since 2017 when the late Sally Stewart led it and I had said to Sally after that trip that I would lead it again and so this was a memorial trip to Sally.

We travelled to Fox Glacier on the Monday after moving the dates back a day due to more favourable weather predicted. We stayed overnight in the N.Z. Alpine Club Lodge at Fox Glacier which is very comfortable and handy to town. An early rise next day to a fine-looking day and we were away after a clean-up of the Lodge heading for the track end about 20mins drive south of Fox Glacier township.

After a series of photos under the sign at the start of the track we crossed Rough Creek which was very low and headed off up the track besides the Karangarua river initially until the Copland River joins it which we then followed.

The track had been completely washed away in places due to the river carving into the bank and a new track had been roughly cut through the bush to avoid these areas. A working group was forming the new track and laying shingle down on it when we returned. A steady climb in warm humid conditions saw us arrive at Welcome Flat hut after 7.5hrs tramping. We were warmly welcomed by the resident hut warden Maria who had been there two weeks and was due to go out the next day. After a hut briefing by Maria and a cuppa, we headed for the hot pools which was very relaxing (see photo). Some decided the adjacent ice fed Copland River was also worth a dip in. The hut was not very full but we found out from Maria that we would have a full hut the next night at Douglas Rock which holds eight as there were some resident climbers there.



Photo Kaye Young

The next day in stunning weather we headed off to Douglas Rock hut which involved more of a climb than we had the previous day. Before leaving the hut, we watched 3 cheeky Keas who visited the hut and followed us to the bridge over the Copland River. Further up the track where it was washed out in places, we took to the river bed and picked up a roughly marked track through the bush to where we eventually got back on to the existing track. After 4 hrs plus tramping in warm conditions, we arrived at Douglas Rock hut where 2 of us decided to bivvy out as the hut was full and the weather was good.

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We took an afternoon walk past the hut up the track besides the Copland River where we came out of the bush and could see further up the valley with views of Mt Sefton and The Footstool. That evening we talked to the other residents about where they had been and 2 had nearly made it to the Copland Pass before turning back on a day trip. We did another visit in the morning to above the bush line and with the early morning sun we were rewarded with great views of the surrounding mountains.

We packed up and returned to Welcome Flat hut that afternoon for another soak in the pools and a dip in the river. We were met by the new hut warden and her husband, Barbara and David who had arrived the previous day. Barbara was Swiss nationality and very interesting to talk to with, along with her Kiwi husband, a retired UC lecturer.

The next morning, we were away earlier and made good time to the car park arriving there after 6.5hrs tramping. We headed to Fox Glacier township for much deserved ice creams and a cold drink.

We played Quiddler card game each night with no overall winner plus some games of Euchre which had close scoring.

This is a fabulous trip and a spectacular valley and would recommend that everyone should visit Welcome Flat and go as far as Douglas Rock. For some of us it was a return trip and it was a good time to go with few overseas visitors about.

The next morning, we were away earlier and made good time to the car park arriving there after 6.5hrs tramping. We headed to Fox Glacier township for much deserved ice creams and a cold drink.

[Click Here For Photos](#)

We were: Ian Fussell Leader (scribe), Kaye Young, Russ Kiddey, Sue Weller, Belinda Hamlin, Tony Oliver

Your OFTC Committee

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Beacon co-ordinator: Peter Oliver	027 438 5082
peter@hackthorne.co.nz	
Deputy Club Captain: Ian Fussell	03 385 0856
fussei@xtra.co.nz	

Club equipment

The following Club equipment is available for members to borrow:
Emergency tent: John Hayman 335 0984 (This tent may be useful for backpacking trips)
Books: Ian Fussell 385 0856
Emergency Shelters (4-6 person Bothy Bags). The Club has three, held by Lawrence Allpress (348 3791), Ian Fussell (385 0856) and Gavin Hampton (343 1291). Excellent for groups.