



The Official Newsletter of
THE OVER FORTIES TRAMPING CLUB INC.

Going Places.....



NEWSLETTER 465 November 2020



Grade 1/2 Rakaia Gorge October 18. Photo Mike Currie

Chair's report

You may remember last year members were invited to submit stories about close encounters with mountain bikers on the Port Hills shared biking and walking tracks. There was a good response from many of you and your responses were the basis for a report I presented in March to the Spreydon Cashmere Community Board. As well as your stories, the report included some possible solutions. One suggestion was better signage in critical areas emphasizing the shared nature of particular tracks and speed warnings for bikers. The response from the Community Board was a little underwhelming and with the passage of time and no further communication from the Community Board, I thought the issue dead in the water. But this week, a team leader from Parks and Reserves made contact and arranged to discuss some of the problem areas at an on-site meeting. The meeting will be after this Chair's report is published, and so I have no idea as to the outcome. But it does appear that our submission is being taken seriously, and I wanted to let you know that your effort in telling your stories was not wasted.

The Christmas Event is confirmed for 5.30 - 7.00pm on December 5th in the Riccarton High School staff room. This is the same venue used for last year's leadership course. Your best point of entry is to come off Vicki St where there is a large carpark. Last year was a lot of fun with music, great story telling, good conversations and plenty of food. This year we hope to have an even better programme.

Lawrence Allpress

You are invited

Club Night
Tuesday November 3
7.30 pm
Knox Hall, corner
Bealey Av/Victoria St

Joanna Orwin will tell us about the background research to her two most recent books - *Kauri: Witness to a nation's history* and *Shifting Currents* - and the different choices and decisions needed for non-fiction and fiction, using these two books set in kauri country as examples.

Christmas Event
Saturday 5 December
5.30 - 7.00 pm
Riccarton High School staffroom
(entrance off Vicki St)

Bring a plate of food to share and byo drinks. Music, laughter, great stories, catch up conversations.

A great way to finish the year.



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 Barbro Guard—980 2792 guard.gabk@gmail.com.

Please note — address all correspondence pertaining to Club business to the Secretary

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



Club Captain's Comment

For those that enjoy the occasional giggle, I thought that this description of the ideal trip leader / co-leaders tramp requirements would brighten up your day.

"Put me down to lead or co-lead. I've done both before and lost a few people but they were only snowboarders. I require an early start - 8.00am at latest, wind less than 2m/s, temp between 12-18 degrees, stimulating conversation, a choice of cafes, empathetic companions with my blood group, an upgrade of vehicle transport, adherence to a fashionable dress group, carefully graded scree slopes, lunchtime demonstrations of yoga or folk dancing, no rap or hip-hop noise, share market tips and a ban on analysis of All Black defeats. Maps and compasses are optional." Well done MB. Because of my delight in reading this, I forget to include him as a November officiator, however Peter Moody will select you for December duties. Sorry kind sir.

It is indeed pleasing to record that over the next 3 or 4 months our trip list will include a selection of Grade 5 tramps. I am really excited, as a Planner, to be able to include these on our listing. Thank you very much to Neil Helson for your suggestions and offer to lead some of these. For many these may be new tramps, although being OFTC past tramps, some have not been completed over recent years.

With so much recorded on the Noticeboard, I will keep this month's comment brief. Please make sure that you have read this month's Noticeboard, and last months for that matter, there is some important stuff in both, some of which I am loath to say was ignored! Do get out there, stay safe, take care and enjoy.

Wilibald Loamsdown (of Deephallow)
(your new) Club Captain

MEMBERSHIP REPORT – November 2020 (as at 18 October)

New members			
Alison Ford	021 077 6932	18 Tippet Crescent Halswell	alisoningarden@gmail.com
Paula Boot	331 6057/021 0255 8204	275 Ashgrove Terrace Somerfield	bootpaula@hotmail.com
Claire Higgins	027 498 7465	2/59 Rutland Street St Albans	claireh60@hotmail.com
Helen Rutledge	021 289 8491	15a Salford Street Redwood	rutledgehelen@hotmail.com
Gloria Lee	021 0291 5297	9a Clyde Road Upper Riccarton	tjdrhd2580@hotmail.com
Helen Ryan	0274 828 182	- Burnside	helenryan@hotmail.com
Dave Morgan	03 313 4783/0274 495 011	10a Park Street Rangiora	davemorgan097@gmail.com
Penny Coffey	332 7182/027 630 2128	34 Landsdowne Tce Cashmere	penny.coffey.nz@gmail.com
Resignations			Years
Graham and Lyn Foulds	355 6348	10 Highgate Ave Merivale	15 and 7 respectively
Changed contact details			
Julie Scofield			julie.scofield1@gmail.com
Eileen McGrade	942 7380	4 The Oval Hillmorton, Chch 8024	
Membership	Female	233	
	Male	160	
	TOTAL	393	

Judy Collin

FMC Patron

Your committee has exercised the OFTC's allocated votes by proxy, on behalf of our members, to approve the nomination of Les Molloy as new FMC patron at their October General meeting. Les has an outstanding resume with a background in science and conservation. He has extensive experience both in NZ and overseas. Originally from Wellington, he has been a keen trumper for many years. He has written seven books on NZ's natural heritage. His full resume can be seen on FMC website www.fmc.org.nz

Sue Weller



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
		Suzanne Fenwick	376 5026
	Grade 1	Howard Harvey	342 9377
			021 136 3043
	Grade 2	Pamela Gibbons	332 7531
		Graeme Brown	383 3732
	Grade 3	Peter Moody	351 7448
	Grade 3-4	Marcel Robb	03 928 3733
Sunday	Grade 1	Fiona Butterick	349 3960
			021 234 8622
	Grade 2	Sheila Downard	337 4201
		Gaye Morton	332 2284
		Jill Halliburton	337 4973
	Grade 3, 4 & 5	Ross Walker	027 558 2126
		Lesley Smith	338 4272
		Alison Downard	357 2089
		Peter Moore	027 773 1670

A leader has the responsibility and right to refuse anybody they consider for any reason may not be able to cope with the conditions.

SUNDAY TRAMPS**NOVEMBER 1****Maj Hornbrook, Lyttelton, Stan Helm PHx**

Cost : Nil NQ
Bridle Path to the Gondola, down Major Hornbrook, lunch in Lyttelton, return via Stan Helms and Bridle Path.
Grade : 1
Depart : Back of Gondola car park where Bridle Path parking is indicated at 9.00am
Time : 4+ hrs
Leader : Fiona Butterick 03 349 3960, 021 234 8622

Lyttelton Explorer PHx

Cost : Nil
Up Bridle Path pipeline, along CRW to Gondola and down Major Hornbrook Track into Lyttelton. Returning via Stan Helms Track and Castle Rock bike track
Grade : 2
Depart : Gondola carpark 9.00 am
Time : 4-5 hrs
Leader : Joan Stevenson 388 0227, 022 096 3797
Co-leader : TBA

Mt Oxford, Oxford Hill Ashley Saddle NW12

Cost : \$11.00
From Coopers Creek ascend Mt Oxford (1000m height gain) then head east to Oxford Hill, down to Ashley saddle and back to the car park.
Grade : 4
Depart : Belfast Hotel car park at 8.00am
Time : 6+ hours
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 (332 3050 or 027 438 5082).

AT THE END OF THE TRAMP

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

Please send mileage details etc to marcel.robb@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 8**Te Awa Awa Reserve to Scotts Saddle SW05**

Cost : \$19
Gradual climb through bush to Scott's Saddle and back. Great views. Rhodies and azaleas in flower.
Grade : 1 NQ
Depart : Yaldhurst Domain at 8.30am (Note earlier start). See Grade 2 directions.
Time : 4+ hrs
Leader : Mary Brinsdon (03)366 9119, 027 220 6270

Te Awa Awa Reserve to Scotts Saddle SW05

Cost : \$19
A pleasant gradual climb through bush to Scott's Saddle and back. Great views of Mt Hutt and surrounding area. Rhododendrons and azaleas will be in flower.
Grade : 2
Depart : cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73. 8.30am. Note new meeting place and earlier start time.
Time : 4+ hours
Leader : Gaye Morton (03)332 2284, 027 245 6147
Co-leader : Chris Clark 027 487 9221

Bobs Knob BW21

Cost : \$13.00
A circuit from Kowai Car Park along the river track up to the Hut then climb up to the ridge and along to Bobs knob and back down to the carpark
Grade : 3
Depart : Cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73 at 8.00am
Time : 5-6 hrs
Leader : Evelyn Sheridan 027 228 0754





NOVEMBER 15

Orton Bradley to Waterfall PB53

Cost : \$5 plus \$10 per car
To the waterfall and back via various tracks.
 Grade : 1 NQ
 Depart : Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St at 9.00am.
 Time : 4+ hrs
 Leader : Joan Hewitson (03)388 4320

Orton Bradley to Lookout BP45

Cost : \$5 plus \$10 per car
Via Hunter valley track to the lookout. Great views. The last section is rocky and steep. Return via Magnificent Gully track.
 Grade : 2
 Depart : Corner Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst Street 9am
 Time : 4 hrs
 Leader : Carolina Kol (03)312 7970
 Co-leader: Joan Stevenson (03)388 0227, 022 096 3797

Mt Thomas Bob's Camp Biv N61A

Cost : \$10
From picnic area carpark, wooded gully at Hayland Road proceed up route via Ridge track to the top of the ridge. At point 953 continue in a westerly direction to Bob's Camp Biv. Distance is 21 km with approximate cumulative 1190 height gain. Tramp will be at a steady pace throughout the day.
 Grade : 4
 Depart : Belfast Hotel carpark at 7.30am
 Time : 8 hrs
 Leader : Alison Downard 021 133 7252

NOVEMBER 22

Barnett Park and Beyond PHx

Cost : Nil
Barnett Park and environs. End with a coffee/ icecream.
 Grade : 1 NQ
 Depart : Barnett Park car park at 9am
 Time : 4+ hrs
 Leader : Val Armstrong (03)384 3391
 Co leader : Joan Hewitson (03) 388 4320

Peak Hill W042

Cost : \$21
From Aldigus Road (600m) follow poled route to the summit of Peak Hill (1240m) for stunning views of Lake Coleridge and the surrounding area. Return by same route.
 Grade : 2
 Depart : cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73.8.30am. Note new meeting place and earlier start time.
 Time : 4-5 hrs
 Leader : Selena Chan (03)342 5014, 027 301 5501
 Co-leader : TBA

Mystery Lake – Lake Clearwater SW15

Cost : \$29.00
This is a 24km circuit starting and finishing at Lake Clearwater village. From the Village proceed around lake to footbridge over river and pass the turnoff to Mt Guy. Join onto the Eastern Link Track which joins the Te Araroa trail. Follow trail pass point 945 to tarn where it joins the Mystery Lake trail. Follow this until reaching Mystery Lake. Proceed around lake and cross the outlet stream to pick up the marker poles joining the Te Araroa trail and then back to Lake Clearwater Circuit Track to cars. Note: the route from the lake outlet shown is incorrect as it does not cross the stream before joining the marked route.
 Grade : 3
 Depart : Cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73 at 7.30am. Please collect the beacon from Yaldhurst Z station and meet Marcel in Hororata
 Time : 7 hours
 Leader : Marcel Robb 022 012 5008

NOVEMBER 29

Sumner Circuit PHx

Cost : Nil
Up the Zig Zag, track to summit Rd, MTB track towards Evans Pass, then CRW back to Gun Emplacements, return via Richmond Hill.
 Grade : 1 NQ
 Depart : Depart from Sumner Surf Club car park at 9am
 Time : 4-5 hrs
 Leaders: Mavis Airey 027 529 3631, John Kelly 021 185 9108

Hogs Back Track, Castle Hill Wx

Cost : \$24
The track is approx 8km (each way) of single track used by walkers & mountain bikers. Involves moderate hill work with spectacular views on a nice day. We start at Castle Hill Village, take the track to Texas Flat, and return same route.
 Grade : 2
 Depart : cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73. Note new meeting place.
 Time : 4-5 hours
 Leaders : Theo Degen (03)332 0526 or 029 9773859,
 Karen Degen : (03)332 0526 or 027 6785943

Cass Saddle W020

Cost : \$24.00
This is the first stage of the Cass Lagoon Saddle Track. From the DOC carpark follow DOC markers up the track from SH73 near the road to the Cass settlement. The track goes to the riverbed and then up the centre of the riverbed for approx 3/4 of an hour to pick up a marked DOC track. The track enters the bush and it takes a further 2 hours to the Cass Hut. Recent floods have washed out the track but mainly follows the river. Another 30 minutes is needed, through an alpine meadow, to reach the saddle, which has good views of the Craigieburns and down to the Harper River. Several stream crossings.
 Grade : 3
 Depart : Cnr Rannoch Drive / Neathwest Ave (Broomfield). This is best accessed from McDonalds Yaldhurst traffic lights corner on SH73 at 8.00am
 Time : 7 hours
 Leader : Ross Walker 027 558 2126

WEDNESDAY TRAMPS

NOVEMBER 4

The Tannery to Ferrymead NQ

Cost: Nil
Follow various tracks including ccc Heathcote Loop and the newly formed Mick/Bruce Tracks to Ferrymead. (No hills)
 Depart: Meet just over bridge from the Tannery on grass area. Parking best on King Edward Tce, alongside river, Heathcote side. Depart 9-30am
 Time: 3-4 hours
 Leader: Bruce Stanton, 338 1909

Hoon Hay Valley –Summit Road Circuit NQ

Cost: \$1
From Hoon Hay Road end follow Cashmere stream, then climb at a gentle pace to the Hoon Hay Reserve and the Summit Road. Return to the cars via Kennedys Bush and farm tracks.
 Grade: 1
 Depart: Crn Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St 9am
 Time: 4 hours
 Leader: Howard Harvey, 342 9377 / 021 136 3043





NOVEMBER 4 CONTINUED

Tirimoana, Ella Peak**N56A**

Cost: \$11

Walk down-hill from the Mt Cass carpark to the beach for morning tea. Enjoy spectacular views of Pegasus Bay from new view-point sign-posted just after the beach turn-off. Continue up Mt Ella - a short steep climb - 346m - for lunch. Return via the wetlands to car-park.

Grade 2

Depart: 8.30 Belfast Hotel Carpark

Time: 5 hours

Leader: Mike Currie, 382 8912 / 027 239 1129

Ben More (Anti-clockwise circuit)**W002**

Cost: \$18

Leave cars at the Acheron stream cutting on the Lyndon Coleridge road. Head SE cross two streams then brief ascent onto terrace leading to base of SW ridge of Ben More. Steady climb then undulating ascent to summit, Ben More 1655. Continue to saddle, gain Western ridge close to communication masts. Follow broad ridge line above Ben More stream (south) then descend to saddle south of Rabbit Hill. Straight forward tracked descent then paddocks directly to the vehicles. Interesting circuit with great views. Ridge travel straight forward. Can be fun in stronger winds. (Map BW21 Springfield)

Grade: 4

Depart: Cnr Rannoch Dr & Neathwest Ave (Broomfield) 8.00am

Time: 7 hours

Leader: Wendy Cain, 027 338 0532

Co-Leader: Denise Cumberpatch 03 383 2661 / 027 340 3299

NOVEMBER 11

Rangiora Ramble**NQ**

Cost: \$4

A flat interesting walk around a wetland and across parks and reserves in the Rangiora area.

Depart: Belfast Hotel (The Peg) at 9.30am

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Lois Watson, 03 313 3491

Bridle Path to Pony Point and return**PH61**

Cost: Nil, bring gold card, metro card or cash if you want to bus back from Lyttelton.

Lovely walk along harbour edge

Grade 2

Depart: 8.30am Gondola Carpark

Time: 4 - 5 hours

Leader: John Corbett, 348 3158 / 021 040 9024

Cloudy Hill Mt Lyndon Loop

W005B

Cost: \$17

Parking at the A Frame at Lake Lyndon, skirt the north pond then climb east spur of Cloudy Hill. Walk the ridge top to Pt 1456, steep descent on scree to a saddle then direct climb to Mt Lyndon summit. Descend directly to North end of Lake Lyndon (and cars) by the usual route. (Map BW21 Springfield)

Grade: 3

Depart: Cnr Rannoch Dr & Neathwest Ave (Broomfield) 8.00am

Time: 5 hours

Leader: Lawrence Allpress, 348 3791 / 022 092 8656

Co-Leader: Jenny Hoffman, 021 230 7577

NOVEMBER 18

Waikari Walk**NQ**

Cost: \$14

Travel to Waikari, joining the Grade 1 group for morning tea at the Plane Table above Waikari Township, with its historic information panel and some great views. Then walking the Waikari old railway formation trail and country roads, choosing one of the various loops to suit. Lovely countryside to walk through, eventually returning to the Village Green and Township. The two groups will travel in separate cars as we may finish at different times.

Depart: Belfast Hotel (The Peg) at 8.30am (NOTE EARLIER TIME)

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Suzanne Fenwick, 376 5026 / 021 1128776

NOVEMBER 18 CONTINUED

Waikari - Weka Pass Historic Features, Maori Drawings NQ

Cost: \$14

To Waikari then a tramp in two parts.

1. A short walk to the plane table above Waikari for morning tea. Look at historic display boards and view.

2. Take the Village walkway and then on a marked route (steepish in places) to view the drawings and the limestone formations before returning to the walkway (2 hours return).

Grade: 1

Depart: Belfast Hotel Car Park at 8.30am

Total time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Howard Harvey, 342 9377 / 021 136 3043.

Head of Kaituna Valley, Mt Herbert, Packhorse, Parkinsons Road. (Car Shuffle required) BP30A

Cost: \$10

Drivers drop everyone at head of Kaituna Valley, then drive round to Parkinsons Rd. One or 2 cars bring drivers back. Walk up to Mt Herbert, along to Packhorse and down to Parkinsons Rd carpark.

Grade 2

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St at 8.30am

Time: 6 hours

Leaders: Lois Prebble and Tom Cholmondeley, 325 2838, 021

02430977, 021 023 56458

Mt Lyndon / Red Hill Ridge**W113**

Cost: \$18

Leave cars at the Seventh Day Adventist Lodge, south end Lake Lyndon, steady climb eventually bearing north towards the summit of Mt Lyndon. When easily accessed side across to connect with Mt Lyndon Red Hill ridge. Good open ridge top walking follows to pt 1494. Bear SE and descend to pt 1244. Then descend to valley floor. Easy climb to saddle south of the lake, then track back to the cars. (Map BW21 Springfield)

Grade: 3

Depart: Cnr Rannoch Dr & Neathwest Ave (Broomfield) 8.00am

Time: 5-6 hours

Leader: Elspeth Jeet, 084 1331

Co-Leader: Alan Stow, 021 078 6038

NOVEMBER 25

Port Levy Saddle to Totara Logs area**NQ**

Cost: \$12

From Little River drive up Weston Valley Road. The road is narrow, winding and unpaved. From Port Levy Saddle walk to the century old Totara cemetery following old summit paper road. Fantastic views of the bays. All round views as the track passes through mostly open country, tussock and the remains of Mountain Totara.

Depart: Cnr of Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St at 9.30am

Time: 3-4 hours

Leader: Alec Mills, 338 5002

Sign of the Bellbird to Ahuriri Reserve via Omahu Bush

Cost: \$2

From Bellbird follow CRW, turn off to Omahu Bush., through bush to Anne's Falls. Back to Summit Rd via Rhodes track then along to Ahuriri Reserve. Return via CRW. Bush walk and expansive views.

Grade 2

Depart: Cnr Ashgrove Tce/Ferniehurst St at 8.30

Time: 5+ hours

Leader: Chris Clark, 027 487 9221

Co Leader: Pamela Gibbons, 3327 531 / 022 678 0398

Leith Hill**W029A**

Cost \$22

Park at Mt Cloudsley carpark behind Castle Hill Village. Pleasant stroll up Thomas River riverbed, negotiate 2 waterfalls then steep climb to a saddle. Easy ridge top walk back to summit. Direct descent down mixed scree to the bush then diagonal fun time bush bash to MTB track beside Thomas R. Easy walk back to carpark.

Grade: 3 (Some of the fitter Grade 2's might enjoy this)

Depart: Cnr Rannoch Dr & Neathwest Ave (Broomfield) 8.00am

Time: 5 Hours

Leader: Marcel Robb, 03 928 3733

Co-Leader: Peter Oliver, 332 3050 / 027 438 5082





Club Captain's Noticeboard

Grade 1 as Qualifying Tramps?

Over the past several weeks I have had discussions, both email and verbal, with some of you concerning Grade 1 tramps being qualifying tramps for new members. I have taken the matter to committee. Page 18 of our Handbook states: "All tramps Grade 2 and above are qualifying tramps for prospective members" (meaning Grade 1 tramps are not). This rule will remain unchanged. So, to become a member, prospective members need to get out on Grade 2 tramps to qualify. They do have three months to achieve their qualification so that should give them plenty of time to build some Grade 2 fitness.

Pee to Wee

Whilst tramping, when the need arises to undertake that private and relieving function (regularly for some of us) then, sorry folks, you need to make it public. You must tell those walking with you (fore and aft) but more importantly, tell the Tail End Charlie who will wait for you at a discreet distance. You must also leave your pack beside the track where you entered the bush. This will greatly assist the search party in locating you should you sit on a wasp nest or fall down a hole. Reminds me of the soggy loo paper joke?

River Safety and Navigation Courses being held soon.

Every Grade 3 and up walker (especially leaders) must know how to safely cross a river and should by now have participated on a River Safety course. We have only 5 enrolments thus far for that soon to be held course! If you ever do get washed away (you will learn how to safely manage that recovery skill on the course) then you may well need to self-navigate your thoroughly cleansed body back to the rest of your party. To do this you need Navigation skills to make the reunion even happier. For the Navigation course I have 6 enrolments. Come on folks, email yours truly for details then enrol. You may be surprised and even have fun.

Group Size

We as a Club are very, very happy with the increased number of members supporting our trips. If this is viewed as a problem, then it is a grand problem to have. The size of the groups do not come without their challenges. The question has been raised, your committee recommends:

- Proceed as per page 34 of the Handbook for Members, which is, splitting the group into faster and slower parties. (Please do read the page)
- Maintain the one larger group, however the Leader should enlist support, even from two co-leaders, experienced tail end and front end charlies etc. These can be nominated on the day as is required.

Option 1 has been used to great effect. My preference, depends on the nature of the trip.

But remember, no one may leave the carpark until all are safely off the hill and accounted for. Mandatory. Why, the overall leader of the day has responsibilities to account for all members completing the day's outing.

Tramping Up a Grade

As with prospective members, if you are (say by way of example) a Grade 2 tramp walker and wish to partake on a Grade 3 tramp. "Please", ring the leader beforehand. Saves you being turned away at the departure point.

Departure Point.

With effect from 1st November 2020 and until further notice, all tramps that would have previously departed from the Yaldhurst Hotel carpark will now depart from the Cnr of Rannoch Drive & Neathwest Avenue, Broomfield. Study your road maps as to the best way to access this site. There are traffic lights at McDonalds Yaldhurst which will help easy access.

Beacons

I am pleased to convey that your committee have agreed to the purchase of four additional Beacons. This will help alleviate the pressure at the three pick up stations.

Health Card (Handbook P 27)

Last month it was written: ***Please check that you have one and that it is up to date. It is especially important that the emergency phone contact number of your spouse / partner / whoever is recorded thereon.***

This means ALL members, including Veterans, MUST have this dual purpose card. It is a club requirement, no exceptions. It is not necessary to have it held with your First Aid Kit, although mine is, otherwise it must be locatable within an outside pocket of your pack. Some are also recording their emergency contact details on the back of their name tag. This is perfectly acceptable. If you have a medical condition that requires specific care (when the need arises), make sure you put this on the card.

Handbook for Members

Our current and seventh edition has a bright yellow/gold cover. Do take time to read and get familiar with the contents, you may surprise yourself and learn something.

Marcel Robb

Bowenvale Maintenance and Planting 2020

On the 29th of October we are due to do another spot of maintenance. I realise that the day will not suit everyone. This time we will be going to last year's plantings, at the top of the block, going up by way of the cycle track. As usual, the meeting point is at the bottom of Bowenvale, on Bowenvale Avenue, at 12.30. Please bring your own hedge clippers and gloves.

Any change in these arrangements will be notified by email Any questions phone me on 343-1291.

Thanks **Gavin Hampton**





Backpacking and Basecamps 2020-2021

Dates	Venue	Nights	Grade	Leader
Mon 2 – Thurs 5 November 2020	Base camp from cabins at Akaroa camping ground.	3	2	Chris Evans 361 1186, Chrism_evans@hotmail.co.uk
Sun 8 – Mon 9 Nov 2020	Cass Lagoon Saddle, Craigieburn	1	Moderate	Paul Knox 339 2997, knoxps@gmail.com
Sat 14 – Sun 15 Nov 2020	Jolliebrook Hut, Lake Sumner	1	Moderate	Dean Stewart 960 3558, Stewy989@gmail.com
Sun 22-Mon 23 November 2020	Cookies Hut via Pudding Hill Range and Mt Bruce, Hakatere	1	4	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
The 7 – 8 hour tramp starts from Camp Koromiko on Pudding Hill Road. It starts in Pudding Hill Stream and then climbs and traverses the ridge of Pudding Hill Range over point 1751 to Mt Bruce. It then descends to Cookies Hut – an ex-musterers' six bunk hut located on the banks of the Swift River. Monday is the reverse.				
Sun 29 Nov- Tues 1 Dec	Mueller Hut, Mt Cook <i>NB: Early booking with Russell required</i>	2	Moderate	Russell Ramsden 322 8856, russramnz@gmail.com
Sun 13-Tue 15 December 2020	Waimakariri Falls Hut, AP	2	3	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
From Klondyke Corner to Carrington Hut for 2 nights with a day tramp to Waimakariri Falls Hut on Monday.				
Monday 4 to Sunday 10 January 2021	Okains Bay base camp	6	Easy	Judy Eden, 03 3844857 edenjudith@xtra.co.nz . Or Caroline Blackford 026516066 .
Sun 17 – Mon 18 Jan 2021	Carroll Hut, Arthurs Pass NP	1	Moderate	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
Sun 31 Jan – Tues 2 Feb	Youngman Stream & Tarn Huts, Lees Valley	2	Moderate	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
Wed 10-Tue 16 Feb 2021	Mt Ruapehu basecamp. <i>NB The trip list has been closed as the trip is fully subscribed.</i>	7	2	Carolyn Blackford – 022 651 6066 cblackfordcarolyn@gmail.com
Sun 14 – Tues 16 Feb 2021	Magdalen Hut – Mt Maritana, Lewis Pass	2	Moderate	Marcel Robb 03 928 3733 or marcel.robb@gmail.com
Mon 1 – Mon 8 Mar 2021	Mount Richmond Alpine Route	7	3 / 4	Alison Mckeachie 03 3392356 0220178123 nevnmck@xtra.co.nz Evelyn Sheridan 03 3830891 0272280754
Sun 28 Feb – Thurs 4 Mar 2021	Three Passes, Arthurs Pass NP	4	Hard	Paul Knox 339 2997, knoxps@gmail.com
Sat 6 – Sun 7 Mar 2021	Hawdon Hut, Arthurs Pass NP	1	Easy	Dean Stewart 960 3558, Stewy989@gmail.com
Sun 14- Sat 21 Mar 2021	Twizel basecamp	6	3/4	Marcel Robb 03 928 3733 or marcel.robb@gmail.com
Sun 28 – Tue 30 Mar 2021	Barker Hut, Arthurs Pass NP	2	Hard	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
Tue 2 – Thurs 6 May 2021	Old Ghost Road, West Coast	4	Moderate	Paul Knox 339 2997, knoxps@gmail.com
Sun 16 – Tues 18 May 2021	Basins Hut, Avoca River, Hakatere	2	4	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
Sun 30 – Mon 31 May 2021	Manuka Hut, Hakatere	1	Easy	Gerald Edmunds 342 6331, agedmunds@outlook.com
Sun 13 – Mon 13 June	New Casey Hut – Binsler Saddle, Arthurs Pass NP	1	Moderate	Paul Knox 339 2997, knoxps@gmail.com
Sat 26 – Sun 27 Jun	Ces Clark Hut, West Coast	1	Moderate	Dean Stewart 960 3558, Stewy989@gmail.com

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

Okains Bay Base Camp

Monday 4 to Sunday 10 January 2021.

Informal, camping, tramping, kayaking, swimming, biking, card playing HOLIDAY. Hurry as campsites going fast, come for part or whole time, you will need your own camping gear.

Enquiries to: Judy Eden, 03844857 edenjudith@xtra.co.nz. Or Caroline Blackford 026516066 cblackfordcarolyn@gmail.com.

Alpine Sports Club's Waitakere Hut

The Alpine Sports Club (ASC) based in Auckland has offered OFTC members the use of their comfortable hut/lodge in the Waitakere Ranges when they're in Auckland. It's accessible by road with a 10 minute walk in to the hut. It sleeps 18 in total over two separate bunk rooms. It has a shower, fridge, stove plus cooking equipment and crockery/cutlery. Current fees are \$30/adult/night and \$15/juniors (between 5 and 18 yrs)/night, and children under 5 free. Please phone Joe Scott-Woods on 09 575 5383 or 022 385 2100 for bookings as far in advance as possible. Carolyn Blackford can provide further information on 022 651 6066 or cblackfordcarolyn@gmail.com



Hawdon Hut tramp, 20 – 21 September 2020



Chris McCausland, Helen Wood, Carolyn Blackford, Denise Cumberpatch

Your OFTC Committee

Chair:	Lawrence Allpress	348 3791
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Ex Officio

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	knoxps@gmail.com	
Webteam Co-ordinator:	Terry Stevens	
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Beacon co-ordinator:	Peter Oliver	332 3050
	peter@hackthorne.co.nz	
Deputy Club Captain:	Ian Fussell	03 385 0856
	fussei@extra.co.nz	

The tramp had already been delayed a week because of poor weather and heavy rainfall earlier in the week meant that rivers were higher than normal. The message from the Arthurs Pass NP Headquarters was that the Hawdon River should be crossable – so the tramp went ahead.

We crossed the Hawdon River from the head of the groyne and followed the diagonal line of rocks. So far so good! After going through the gate at the Mt White Station boundary we stuck to the true right of the river. This included some wading through waist deep pools while hanging onto the bluffy bits. Finally we were forced to cross the river near the confluence with the East Hawdon Stream. This crossing was a bit more exciting and one person tried to have a (unintentional) swim. The third crossing of the river still required some care. Hopefully it will have dropped tomorrow!

On Monday morning we tramped up to the tarn near Walker Saddle before heading down stream to Hawdon Shelter. Once we had crossed the East Hawdon we followed the four wheel drive track over the river flats in sunshine. This track led to a much easier river crossing. A series of DOC markers on the true right of the river that led to a lovely, well established and well-marked bush track from the river edge all the way to Sudden Valley Stream. Markers led the way to the stile over the boundary fence. This was much easier tramping than crossing the river flats!

The final river crossing opposite the middle of the groyne was a challenge. At that place the river bottom is even without large rocks to scramble around and over. Most of the group joined up for the crossing as the river was flowing swiftly.

DOC was asked about the track in the lower valley. Their comment was that it is a trapping route and not a track. The lesson from the tramp is to cross the Mt White boundary fence over the stile and try to find the bush track on the west side of Sudden Valley Stream – it is not well marked on the eastern end. At the western end cross the river and follow the four wheel drive track.

The challenge of the river made for an interesting tramp by a great bunch of people.

From Hawdon Hut – Hawdon shelter:
Time 3 hours 25 minutes (25 minutes making the final river crossing)
Distance – 10.25 km

Trampers: Russell Hignett, Chris McCausland, Carolyn Blackford, Denise Cumberpatch, Helen Wood, Gerald Edmunds.

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 Ian Fussell 385 0856, Marcel Robb (03 928 3733 or 022 012 5008) and Gavin Hampton (343 1291). Excellent for groups.

