



# ***THE CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPER***

Published by CHRISTCHURCH TRAMPING CLUB INC  
PO Box 527, Christchurch. [www.ctc.org.nz](http://www.ctc.org.nz)

Affiliated with the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

Any similarity between the opinions expressed in this newsletter and Club policy is purely coincidental.

Vol. 95

July 2025

No. 3



Enjoying the sunset at Mataketake Hut. (Photo by Justin Loh)

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 **fortnightly** 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, \$20 junior or associate, plus an extra \$15 for members who opt to obtain a paper copy of the FMC newsletter.

For more about how the club operates, see the last two pages.

---

## Calendar of trips and Social Events

**Trips:** Unless otherwise stated, club trips depart either from 'Z' Carlton Corner Service Station (formerly Shell) at 1 Papanui Road (next to Liquor Land and opposite Derby Street) or from 'Z' Russley (formerly Caltex) 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 'Z' Carlton. Day trips usually depart at 8 am 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 alternate Wednesdays 7:00 pm at the CMLC (Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club) building at 110 Waltham Road, Waltham. This new building, beside and on the south side of Waltham School, is about 100m south of the Brougham St/Waltham Rd intersection. Waltham Road is the southern extension of Barbadoes Street. 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 phone **Kayleigh Gilkes 020 4110 7446** or email **kayleigh.gilkes@googlemail.com**. Please note that formalities start at 7:00 pm sharp, and if there is a guest speaker, he/she will start at 7:30pm sharp.

**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 **and pay** before leaving town; the club bank account number is 38-9017-0279838-00 (Kiwibank/Christchurch Tramping Club). Include your name and the words hut fees in the particulars/code/reference fields. Also date of first stay (first night if multiple) is useful if you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> reference field available. For bookings and the door entry code please email: **[hutbooking@ctc.org.nz](mailto:hutbooking@ctc.org.nz)**. Hut fees are \$20 for members and their immediate family, \$30 for non-members, \$15 for children aged 10–17, \$5 for children under 10. If you find any problems or maintenance required, please use the email contact.

**Equipment Hire:** The Club has a range of equipment for hire. The Gear Custodian is Alan Ross, ph. 027 358 3281. Note: club gear assigned to you is your responsibility; please take care of it. Please 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.

A more detailed list is on our website under the Member's menu, Gear Hire

**Rates for Gear Hire:**

Tent	\$5/person/night
Ice axes, crampons	\$5 per item per day (\$10 weekend)
Avalanche kits (transceiver+probe+shovel)	\$5 per item per day (\$10 weekend)
Large 70L packs	\$2 per weekend
Helmets	Free
Extra snow shovels	\$5 per item per weekend

Wednesday 2 July	Social
<p><b>CTC Buy, Sell &amp; Exchange:</b> Our very popular CTC Gear Sale and Auction is approaching faster than a tramper to a DOC hut after dark! So, bring your gear over or get yourself something new. Boots, jackets, packs, ropes, crampons, axes, tents... you name it. Cash is preferred to facilitate swift transactions. You can sell your gear at a fixed price or put in in action. The auctioneer of the night will be Steve Bruerton.</p>	

Saturday 5 July	Leader: John Kerkhofs +64 21 2429253 john.kerkhofs@gmail.com
Departure point: Z (formerly Caltex) Russley	
<p><b>Redcliffe Stream to Tribulation Hut:</b></p> <p>Redcliffe Stream lies between the Black Hill Range and Mount Hutt Range, more or less across the Rakaia river from the Coleridge power station. The trip will start on Double Hill Run Road along the south bank of the Rakaia and follow a marked track up the true right of Redcliffe Stream through a scenic reserve. The reserve contains a diverse range of native plants including a dense stand of kowhai, uncommon in inland Canterbury. From the head of the stream, we continue up over Redcliff Saddle and look forward to lunch at Tribulation Hut, an old musterer's hut next to the Swift River. We'll return the same way. There is a previous trip report if you want to get an idea of what the trip is like. <a href="https://ctc.org.nz/index.php/trip-reports?goto=tripreports%2F971">https://ctc.org.nz/index.php/trip-reports?goto=tripreports%2F971</a></p> <p>Return trip 20kms, overall height gain around 830m.</p> <p>Expect about 1.5hrs travel each way plus a stop at Hororata Cafe on the return (if it's still open).</p>	<p>Grade: Easy/ Moderate</p> <p>Closes: 4 July</p> <p>Map: BW20 Lake Coleridge</p> <p>Approx: \$25 - \$30 depending on car loading</p>

Weekend 5-6 July Departure point: Z (formerly Caltex) Russley		Leader: Alan Chapman +64 22 327 2832 Alan.Chapman@darctechnologies.com
<b>Waimakariri Falls Hut - Challenge :</b> This is a specialist skills trip - Approval by Trip leader required Arrive in Arthurs - 8am Snack stop at Anti-Crow -10am Lunch at Carrington - 12noon Waimakariri Falls Hut - 3pm - #Rope Skills# Arrive at Carrington Hut - 6pm Some of group may return to Waimakariri Falls Hut, others to stay at Carrington - #River Skills# Anti-Crow Hut - 1pm - #River Skills# Arrive at Car 6pm		Grade: Moderate/ Hard Closes: 2 July Map: BV20 Otira Approx: \$30 + Hut
Sunday 6 July Departure point: Z Russley		Leader: Rachel Perkinson +64 20 4069 4627 rperkinson2@gmail.com
<b>Mt Guy (near Lake Clearwater Hakatere Cons. Area):</b> We will head up Mt Guy via the main track for a summit lunch/morning tea before we walk down the ridge to join the TA before walking back along the lake. Should take about 5 -6 hours. (12km, 700m ascent) Date subject to change as only worth doing on a clear day. Trip can only go ahead if drivers sign up happy to increase the trip size if there are enough people on the waiting list.		Grade: Easy/ Moderate Closes: 6 July Map: BX19 Hakatere Approx: TBC
Wednesday 9 July Departure point: Bridle Path car park, next to the Gondola car park.		Leader: John Kerkhofs +64 21 2429253 john.kerkhofs@gmail.com
<b>Wednesday Social Walk #78 - Port Hills Pizza Perambulation:</b> We will perambulate over the Port Hills using the Bridle path to get to Arbour Bar & Wood-fired Pizza. <a href="https://www.arbourbar.co.nz/">https://www.arbourbar.co.nz/</a> will tell you about what to expect over there. Obviously we will eat pizza and drink beer once get there, but I'll mention it just in case you haven't picked that up. Now this doesn't come free - the price you will pay is a one hour walk over the Bridle Path, a whopping 3.74 km with 246 metres of height gain. After feasting on pizza and beer, we could walk back over the hill, but the better option will be the teal coloured limousine (bus) that will carry you *through* the hill in comfort. Departure options are 8:35, 9:05, and 9:35, with only a 2 minute walk to the pickup point on Norwich Quay. Bus fare is \$2 on a Metrocard, \$4 cash, or free if you're old enough to have a Supergold card. If you're more organised and energetic, you could drive to Lyttelton, park your car, and walk back to the start of the Bridle Path to join us for the formal walk to Lyttelton, or you could bus to Lyttelton on the aforementioned limousine and do the walk back to the departure point. All's fair as long as you're at the Bridle Path carpark by 18:00, as long as you don't drive to Arbour and walk in - that would be cheating!		Grade: Easy Closes: 7 July Map: Approx: Bus fare, and whatever you eat/drink

Multi day trip 11-12 July Departure point: Z Russley		Leader: Tomyu Hu 0226 589 688 tomyuhu@gmail.com	
<b>Avalanche Peak:</b> A winter ascent of Avalanche Peak. Friday 11 July Leave Christchurch at 6pm Staying the night at the club hut. Saturday 12 July. 7am Early start up Scotts Track to Avalanche Peak. Return the same way. My main interest is to climb Avalanche Peak on Saturday 12 July. I'm not sure if I will stay a second night on Saturday night or not. But other people are welcome to and could do another day trip on Sunday.		Grade: Moderate Closes: 8 July Map: BV20 Otira Approx: \$40 Transport; \$20 Friday night club hut fees	
Saturday 12 July Departure point: Z Papanui, Lyttelton Information Centre		Leader: Michael Newlove 021-1685716 newmike@slingshot.co.nz	
<b>Urumau Reserve/Mt Pleasant/Whakaraupo Reserve:</b> The trip will start at the Lyttelton Information Centre in Oxford Street, up Reserve Terrace, Foster Terrace and into the Urumau Reserve. Follow the Ridge Track through the reserve, past the old gun emplacements and up to Mt Pleasant (499m), for some good views over Lyttelton, Christchurch and the Canterbury Plains. Join the Mt Pleasant Track, then the Crater Rim Walkway round Mt Cavendish, to the Pioneer Women's Memorial for a lunch stop. The return trip will follow the Stan Helms Track through the Whakaraupo Reserve to Lyttelton and back to the information centre. Round trip 12kms, overall height gain 500m.		Grade: Easy/ Moderate Closes: 11 July Map: Approx: \$5 cash please	
Weekend 12-13 July Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Michal Klajban 020 4196 3548 michal.klajban@gmail.com	
<b>Brass Monkey hut:</b> Brass Monkey Biv has been removed. Long live Brass Monkey Hut! We'll visit this gem when the mountains around will probably be covered in snow, so you need to have snow skills and appropriate snow gear for this trip. The hut itself is quite small, and we can't rely on it being empty, so we'll be carrying tents. We'll approach the hut via the Rough Creek route. If the snow conditions are good, we could look at walking out via Lewis Tops and hitching back to Rough Creek, but the basic plan for now is going via Rough Creek, in and out the same way. We really need two good days for this trip, so if the weather isn't ideal, I'll postpone. It's about 1400 m up on the first day, so let me grade it Mod/Hard as we'll have overnight packs, and there will likely be snow.		Grade: Moderate/ Hard Closes: 12 July Map: BT23 Lewis Pass Approx: \$80	

Weekend 12-13 July	Leader: Symon Holmes 021 257 2720
Departure point: Z Papanui	symon_gnome@yahoo.co.nz

### Cow Stream Hot Pools - Winter tenting.:

It's winter so that means Hot Pools season. Cow stream is an easy walk from near the St James station on Tophouse Road behind Hanmer Springs. We walk along the track to the area opposite the hot pools where will camp. There should be plenty of time for soaking in the hot pools. On Sunday we return the way we came. There is no hut at the hot pools so we will be tenting. This will be a good test of your sleeping mats and sleeping bags. A trowel/digging device for digging a suitable toilet hole as unless things have changed there is no toilet at the hot pool camping area.

Grade: Easy  
 Closes: 11 July  
 Map: BU24  
       Hanmer  
       Springs  
 Approx: Approx \$45

Wednesday 16 July

Social

**African winter #2: Namibia - people, geology, animals, short walks:** From early August 2024, Lynette, Jeff and Bryce spent two months in Southern Africa, most in Namibia, but with nearly two weeks in Botswana and brief visits to Zimbabwe and South Africa. In the first instalment, they described their multi-day tramping trips in Namibia. In this one, they will talk about some of their other experiences in that country - and assorted day trips, the towns, people, culture, biota and geology.

Saturday 26 July  
 Departure point: Z Papanui

Leader: Michael Newlove 021-1685716  
 newmike@slingshot.co.nz

### Helicopter Hill:

Starting by the shelter at the Upper Cave Stream Reserve, follow the Mistletoe Track through beech forest, then Sidle 73 Track through to the Craigieburn Valley Ski Road. A short section of the ski road and Craigieburn Valley Track takes us up to Lyndon Saddle from where we ascend Helicopter Hill (1256m). Panoramic views of Castle Hill Basin. The return trip will descend back to Lyndon Saddle, then follow the Luge Track and Broken River Ski Road back to the shelter.

Round trip 12 kms, 500m height gain.

Grade: Easy/  
       Moderate  
 Closes: 25 July  
 Map: BW21  
       Springfield  
 Approx: \$25 cash  
       please

Saturday 26 July Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com	
<b>TORTIS Tour #69:</b> A beginners guide to getting lost and what to do about it, plus some general navigation and bushcraft skills. This is a day of practical training to help prepare you for the day when your planned day walk becomes a potential overnight sleepover. Bring your normal day pack and gear, a good lunch and a sense of humour - some older pre-torn clothes may be useful as the trip does involve some bush bashing. Bring your GPS and/or compass if you have one, but it is not essential because they will be provided for the navigation part of the exercise. We will stop at the Rangiora Coffee Culture for tea, a Q&A session and a trip debrief on the way home, because the trip lasts till until 5 - 6pm depending on your navigation skills. This is the only club training course which is open to non-members, and it is designed for trampers looking to step up from easy to moderate trips.		Grade:Easy/ Moderate Closes: 25 July Map: Approx: \$25 pay online.	
Sunday 27 July Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com	
<b>TORTIS Tour #70:</b> A beginners guide to getting lost and what to do about it, plus some general navigation and bushcraft skills. This is a day of practical training to help prepare you for the day when your planned day walk becomes a potential overnight sleepover. Bring your normal day pack and gear, a good lunch and a sense of humour - some older pre-torn clothes may be useful as the trip does involve some bush bashing. Bring your GPS and/or compass if you have one, but it is not essential because they will be provided for the navigation part of the exercise. We will stop at the Rangiora Coffee Culture for tea, a Q&A session and a trip debrief on the way home, because the trip lasts till until 5 - 6pm depending on your navigation skills. This is the only club training course which is open to non-members, and it is designed for trampers looking to step up from easy to moderate trips.		Grade:Easy/ Moderate Closes: 26 July Map: Approx: \$25 pay online.	
Wednesday 30 July		Social	
Hiking in Greenland (Linda Lilburne): TBA			



Weekend 2-3 August

Leader: Michal Klajban 020 4196 3548  
michal.klajban@gmail.com

**Arthur's Pass base camp for kids (ages 3-8 more or less):**

This is an easy-going base camp-style trip for parents and their kids. It's open to children aged roughly 2-8 years. It'll be the middle of winter, so I don't think there's any point in pushing our kids to do more than walk a couple of kilometres and play in the mud. We'll meet at around 10 AM at Castle Hill carpark - it's at -43.23372238255614, 171.72273657793698 We'll set off on a short journey of a few hundred metres to see some impressive rocky outcrops. I don't dare aspire to summit Castle Hill (920 m), but if the kids have plenty of energy, we can give it a go. Bring lunch for your kiddos - we can have a wee picnic there. You can find more information about the area here: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/kura-tawhiti-castle-hill/> After the walk, we'll head to the Arthur's Pass club hut, which I've booked for the weekend. We'll sort out the beds, light the fire, cook dinner, and settle in. Feel free to bring some toys, books and games - anything from simple puzzles and board games to colouring books would be great. There's a passenger train passing through Arthur's Pass between 04:30-04:35 pm so those interested can go and see it with me and my kiddo. I expect the kids will be pretty knackered early on - my kid will probably be in bed by 7 PM! On Sunday, we'll have a leisurely walk to the Devil's Punchbowl Waterfall - it's an easy 2 km return trip. More info here: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/arthurs-pass-national-park/things-to-do/tracks/devils-punchbowl-walking-track/> We can also pop into a caf- afterwards for a cuppa and say hi to kea. This plan is just rough, flexible, and negotiable. I mainly want it to be a relaxed trip away for the kids, with the chance to get into the snow if conditions allow. If the weather's bad, we can simply meet in Porters Pass, do some snow sliding, and go straight to Arthur's Pass and spend the weekend doing short walks around and chilling at the club hut with the kiddos. Accommodation: There are three bunk rooms in the CTC club hut, so you'll likely share with another family unless you can fill a 4-6-person room. The club hut has a fully equipped kitchen, stove, microwave, fireplace, beds, and hot showers. Please bring sleeping bags, toilet paper, and food for yourself and the kids. I'll try to bake some low-sugar muffins on Saturday night for all the kiddos. Hut fees are \$15 member, \$15 member's immediate family (life partner, children, grandchildren), \$25 non-member, \$10 children 10-17 inclusive, free children under 10. Feel free to bring cash but you can transfer the money to me afterwards too. I expect most people will want to take their own car, but if you'd like to carpool, let me know. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask! When signing up, make sure to note how many kids you're bringing - and include their first names and ages. It goes without saying, but you are

Grade: Easy - kids grade

Closes: 30 July

Map:

Approx: Hut fees



responsible for the safety of yourself and your kids. Make sure to pack enough warm clothes and food. Please, no screens. Also, please check this page: <a href="https://ctc.org.nz/about/tramping-with-families">https://ctc.org.nz/about/tramping-with-families</a>	
---	--

Multi day trip 2-9 August Departure point: TBA	Leader: Justin Loh 0212668466 jx@justinloh.com
<p><b>Abel Tasman Winter Loop 8D7N:</b> According to GaiaGPS, this loop will be 120km and have a cumulative elevation gain of 6,200m. And apparently, Winter is the best time to do this due to the lack of crowd and sandflies, and it's warmer than Christchurch over there. Itinerary is below, some notes here... On Day 1, we shall wake up at some questionable hour in the morning and gather at Z Papanui before embarking on a 6 hours drive to the Abel Tasman Carpark having a few breakfast lunch and coffee on the way and start our adventure with a short 2.5km hike to the Tinline Campsite. On Day 2-3-4 we are travelling on the Inland Track, we'll aim to hit the not-great-walk-style-track each day at sunrise. On Day 5, we aim to arrive at Awaroa Bay for the low tide crossing on time. Drop our pack and head over and run around Awaroa Beach. On Day 7, we will do some touristy stuff that involves a visit to the rarely visited Falls River Falls and then to the Cleopatras Pool before crossing the Torrent River, heading to Pitt Head and ending up at Apple Tree Bay Campsite. On Day 8, a short 5.5km walk back to the carpark and a 6 hours drive back to Christchurch with plenty of breakfast lunch and coffee along the way and maybe some carpool karaoke. D1 Saturday, August 2, 2025 - Drive to Abel Tasman Carpark 6hr - Carpark to Tinline Campsite (15 site) 2.5km 66m D2 Sunday, August 3, 2025 - Tinline to Castle Rock Hut (8 bunk) 11.4km 1102m D3 Monday, August 4, 2025 - Castle Rock to Awapoto Hut (12 bunk) 14.6km 580m D4 Tuesday, August 5, 2025 - Awapoto to Mutton Cove Campsite (20 site) 20.4km 710m D5 Wednesday, August 6, 2025 - Mutton Cove to Awaroa Hut (26 bunk) 21.1km 796m - Awaroa Bay crossing 1:34pm Low Tide 1.5hr before 2hr after D6 Thursday, August 7, 2025 - Awaroa to Torrent Bay Campsite (10 site) 22.1km 1451m D7 Friday, August 8, 2025 - Torrent Bay to Apple Tree Bay Campsite (15 site) 23.1km 1358m - Torrent Bridge crossing 3:16pm Low Tide 4hr either way D8 Saturday, August 9, 2025 - Apple Tree Bay to Carpark 5.5km 300m - Drive to Chch 6hr Water sources on the Inland Track There are few reliable water sources along the Inland Track, particularly along Evans Ridge and between Tinline Bay and Holyoake's Clearing. Carry your own water supply. Be aware Giardia has been found in some park waters. It can be removed from drinking water by boiling, chemical treatment or filtering. Things to consider before signing on - Despite this being a Moderate trip, you are going to be carrying a pack with tents and supplies for 8 days and doing long days each day. The 3 days on the Inland Track is also not going to be a walk in the park. We are also doing a 4-day full length Great Walk in 3 days along with all the side trips. We will be tenting in Winter.</p>	Grade: Moderate Closes: 19 July Map: BN25 Totaranui BP25 Motueka Approx: Transport will be Fuel*1.5 (est \$170) + \$126 for Campsites and Huts (book your own)

Saturday 9 August Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Michael Newlove 021-1685716 newmike@slingshot.co.nz
<b>Rakaia Gorge Walkway - postponed to August 9th.:</b> A nice easy trip following the cliffs and river terraces above the gorge, giving great views of the gorge and Mt Hutt Range. The walkway starts in farmland, then enters areas of regenerating bush, and emerges alongside a fenced field. Continue down into a gully where a short side track leads to the site of the disused Snowdon Coal Mine. Cross a small stream, out of the gully and up to a sign posted track junction where the walkway continues up to the Upper Gorge Viewpoint. Beyond the viewpoint, the track drops down steeply into the bush. A short side track takes us down to the Rakaia River for a lunch stop. Rejoin the walkway back to the carpark. Return trip around 10kms, overall height gain 300m.		Grade: Easy + Closes: 8 Aug Map: Approx: \$25 cash please

Wednesday 13 August	Social
<b>African winter #3: Botswana safari:</b> From early August 2024, Lynette, Jeff and Bryce spent two months in Southern Africa, most in Namibia, but with nearly two weeks in Botswana and brief visits to Zimbabwe and South Africa. In earlier instalments, they described their experiences in Namibia. In this one, they will take you through an eight-day safari in Botswana, incorporating part of the Okavango Delta, Moremi Game Reserve, Savuti Marsh and Chobe National Park.	

Long Weekend 15-17 August Departure point: Z (formerly Caltex) Russley	Leader: Mark Nicholls 027 561 8463 marknicholls@hotmail.com
---	--

**Marks Mueller hut happy fun time:**

A copy and paste of 2024's trip, let's find my Further Faster Hat #3! We will leave Friday Arvo around 4pm, with a dinner stop along the way (Kebab world anyone?) before spending the night at Aoraki/ Mt Cook at Unwin Lodge (\$25 for NZAC members, \$50 for non-members) or if we are feeling brave, tenting at the Whitehorse Campsite. On Saturday we will check in at the DOC visitor centre before heading up Sealey tarns, head up to have lunch at the Lorraine Poole memorial lookout/ snow hole area looking over to Mt Sefton and then head over to Mueller Hut for an afternoon exploring/ having fun in the Snow and an evening in the hut. On Sunday, after more taking in the view, we will head back down and drive home again, expect to be home at a reasonable time (around 5ish). Travel times/ walking times: - Christchurch to Unwin Lodge - approximately 4 hours - Carpark to Sealey tarns - 3 hours, about 600m of elevation gain - Sealey Tarns to Mueller Hut - around 3 hours, about 500m of elevation gain Notes: - Ice Axe, Crampons, Helmet and Avalanche gear (and knowledge of how to use them) are essential. If you do not have these, you can hire from the club, note that there are only 4 Avalanche Sets so you'll need to be quick, you can also hire kits from Bivouac and Further Faster (I think) - Mueller Hut - we will need to book on the day(?), \$35 for NZAC members, \$50.00 for adults.

Grade: Moderate/  
Hard  
Closes: 14 Aug  
Map:  
Approx: Approx  
\$80.00 +  
Unwin &  
Hut

Wednesday 27 August

Social

**Exploring the Lanna Kingdom - Cycle Touring Northern Thailand (Michael Drawbridge):**

CTC member Michael recently returned from a cycling adventure through Northern Thailand, spending several weeks exploring its diverse landscapes on two wheels. Along the way, he captured stunning photographs of the country's vibrant culture, breathtaking scenery, and everyday life.

Join us as Michael shares his journey, showcasing his photos and stories from the road.

Saturday 30 August Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com
<b>TORTIS Tour #71:</b> <p>A beginners guide to getting lost and what to do about it, plus some general navigation and bushcraft skills. This is a day of practical training to help prepare you for the day when your planned day walk becomes a potential overnight sleepover. Bring your normal day pack and gear, a good lunch and a sense of humour - some older pre-torn clothes may be useful as the trip does involve some bush bashing.</p> <p>Bring your GPS and/or compass if you have one, but it is not essential because they will be provided for the navigation part of the exercise. We will stop at the Rangiora Coffee Culture for tea, a Q&amp;A session and a trip debrief on the way home, because the trip lasts till until 5 - 6pm depending on your navigation skills. This is the only club training course which is open to non-members, and it is designed for trampers looking to step up from easy to moderate trips.</p>		Grade:Easy/ Moderate Closes: 29 Aug Map: Approx: \$25 pay online.

Sunday 31 August Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Chris McGimpsey 027 657 3070 tortistours@gmail.com
<b>TORTIS Tour #72:</b> <p>A beginners guide to getting lost and what to do about it, plus some general navigation and bushcraft skills. This is a day of practical training to help prepare you for the day when your planned day walk becomes a potential overnight sleepover. Bring your normal day pack and gear, a good lunch and a sense of humour - some older pre-torn clothes may be useful as the trip does involve some bush bashing.</p> <p>Bring your GPS and/or compass if you have one, but it is not essential because they will be provided for the navigation part of the exercise. We will stop at the Rangiora Coffee Culture for tea, a Q&amp;A session and a trip debrief on the way home, because the trip lasts till until 5 - 6pm depending on your navigation skills. This is the only club training course which is open to non-members, and it is designed for trampers looking to step up from easy to moderate trips.</p>		Grade:Easy/ Moderate Closes: 30 Aug Map: Approx: \$25 pay online.

Weekend 6-7 September Departure point: Z Papanui		Leader: Justin Loh 0212668466 jx@justinloh.com
<b>Snowy Mt Fyffe Full Moon Party:</b> <p>Mt Fyffe boasts stunning sunrises and sunsets. A little bird also promised me there will be snow up there in early September. It's a 4WD track most of the way up and involves an enduring 9km slog clocking close to 1,500m of elevation gain. Bring a tent to camp at the summit in the snow, bring enough gas to melt snow for water, and maybe a sleep mask because that moon is going to be bright. You are more than welcome to bring some fairy lights to party up your tents because I know you want to. As we will be travelling in snowy country, please bring a pair of shades to prevent snow blindness. Sunrise 7.48am - Sunset 4.58pm Limit 12, will open to more depending on drivers availability. Just a little note about Justin's moderate trips- - Please study the route map regardless of how experienced you are. - Pace yourself, no medals for being the fastest person or the person who is huffing and puffing to keep up with the fastest person. - Ensure you are well fuelled throughout the journey. - Experience required if you have not done an equivalent moderate multi-day trip before: 2x moderate day trip + 2x easy/moderate multi-day trip.</p>		Grade: Moderate Closes: 3 Sept Map: BT27 Kaikoura Approx: \$76 - cost estimation based on 3 person in a 3000cc vehicle

Wednesday 24 September	Social
<b>Permolat (Andrew Buglass):</b> <p>Your Club Captain Michal asked Andrew to do a talk about Permolat so he'll be doing a talk about Permolat. I'm assuming that some or a lot of you will already know something about the Group (which isn't really one) so rather than preach to the converted, or spoon feed you something, I suggest you all look at the About page on the Remote Huts website before you come. That pretty much says everything that needs to be said about us anyway. Then, if you'd like to know more, or about something that isn't there, or have something expanded on, I'll be able to respond on the night. Remote Huts website: <a href="https://www.remotehuts.co.nz/about-us.html">https://www.remotehuts.co.nz/about-us.html</a></p>	

Long Weekend 25-28 September		Leader: Tomyu Hu 0226 589 688	
Departure point: To Be Advised		tomyuhu@gmail.com	
<b>Brewster Hut and Brewster Glacier or Mt Armstrong:</b>		Grade: Moderate/ Hard	
I'd like to visit Brewster Hut but do not want to meet the summer crowds nor want to pre book the hut. So I am proposing a later spring trip. There will definitely be snow and hopefully blue skies. You will need to take the afternoon of Thursday 25 September and all day Friday 26 September off work. Thu 25 September: 1pm Leave Christchurch and drive to Albert Town camp-ground for the night. Fri 26 September: Drive to start of Brewster Track and tramp up to Brewster Hut. Sat 27 September: Spare day to visit the glacier or ascend Mt Armstrong or just relax around the hut. Sun 28 September: Early start back down the track to the car park by 11am. Afternoon drive back to Christchurch by early evening. Trip will only go with a good weather forecast and favourable avalanche forecast. Trip date will move to the coming Thursday to Sundays in October based on the weather and avalanche conditions. From 1 July 2025 the cost of Brewster Hut will be \$50 a night. If you intend to stay at other DOC huts in the coming 12 months you may want to buy a DOC annual hut pass with your CTC FMC card and receive a 20% discount on the annual pass which will cost \$128, so after 2 nights at Brewster Hut you will have almost broken even on the cost of your hut pass.		Closes: 18 Sept	
		Map: BZ13 Haast	
		Approx: Fuel TBC + 50% petrol cost; Hut fees x2 night \$100 total; Thursday night campground fee approx \$30	

## Trip Reports

5-6 April 2025

### Wāhine trip (almost) to the Princess Bath

On a drizzly Otautahi morning, nine wāhine gathered at Z Papanui. Spirits were high as we set off on our journey — a camp-out at Princess Bath. The weather reports had promised clearing skies, but as we trundled up the road towards Hanmer Springs, the outlook remained grey. Enthusiasm began to wane, so we stopped for coffee and pies in Hanmer to weigh up our options.

We decided to press on, figuring it could still be clearing up towards the St James. Arriving at Lake Tennyson, we parked up and set out on foot along the 4WD track. Five kilometres in, things were still looking ominous. After much contemplation — over lunch — it was agreed that Plan A, route-finding our way up to Princess Bath, might be best saved for a more welcoming day.

Plan B materialised as we wrapped up lunch. We returned to the cars and started over at Peter's Valley to head up to Cow Stream — hot pools sounding like a reasonable second best to the bath (and warmer, at that!).

Packs back on, we hit 4WD track number two for the day at pace and soon covered the 15km trip into the pools. Tents were pitched, layers were shed, and it was time for a soak. Great chats and floating snacks — who knew a Croc would come in handy for such things — were had, and as the sun set, we scrambled back to camp for a dehy nosh-up before



hitting the sack.

Day two began with swim number two, before trundling our way back to the cars to return home at a reasonable hour.

While we didn't make it up the mountain, we made up for it with good banter and still managed to clock up a few kms — a lovely weekend out by all accounts.

Thanks to Trip Leaders Joanna and Hannah-Rose for guidance and navigating the group's thoughts and feelings when the weather wasn't playing ball.

Looking forward to giving Princess Bath another crack when it pops back up on the trip list.

Scribe — Alice Lines

---

31 May - 2 June 2025

## **Te ao Whekere**

Te ao Whekere is one of the five named peaks in the Kaikoura Ranges. And the last one on Linus' and my list. I decided to do this as a club trip over a very generous 3 days with the intention of doing some unnamed peaks and Surveyor Peak along the way.

The weather forecast shows some gnarly gust on Saturday and then easing as the week progresses. It was then decided that we will proceed with the mission. Day 1 is all about access. 7km and close to 1,700m elevation gain with fully loaded pack going up Jordan Stream then battling loose scree and serious wind gust which got serious-er the higher we climb. Imagine our relief when we finished our 450m scree descent into Happy Valley and discovered our imaginary campsite does indeed exist with the stream flowing right next to it! There's some serious manifestation there, or just too much time spent geeking out on topo maps and satellite images. After pitching our tents and bivvies like the houses on Lyttelton, we had dinner under the shelter of a giant boulder in the middle of the stream. Then an early night amid the roaring Westerlies.

The wind did not let up through the night until the wee hours. Temperatures dropped rapidly after that. Day 2 objective is to summit Te ao Whekere, pt2468, and Surveyor Peak. That rapidly falls apart as we are trying to gain the spur to get on the ridge, I changed my mind about a pre-planned route and decided on something that looks easy, but in actual fact, wasn't. We got through the crux with some sketchy moves and then put on our crampons to cross a snowfield and didn't take them off until we returned to the spur. We did a lot of dry cramponing, all the way to the summit. Once we are on the ridge, we discovered the wind gusting wasn't letting up, so once we summited Te ao Whekere, our primary objective, we decided that we have had enough. So we hunkered down on the side of the ridge, in the sun and sheltered from the wind, for an extended lunch break. Returning to camp too early meant that we will be spending a lot of time amongst the moist low cloud.

The wind tapered off early in the night and temperatures dropped into freezing range rapidly. We agreed on a sleep in and hit the track at 8am. Regaining the ridge requires 300m of steep climbing which we felt like a walk in the park compared to previous days. The weather is calm and pretty and we cruise along at a happy pace, happy to leave Happy Valley behind. We down climbed some stuff which I had no idea how we got up on in the first place. We managed to ride a gravel train and descend 500m of scree field back into Jordan Stream and after 27km and 4,300m of elevation gain, made our jolly way out back to the car.

Team: Linus, Paul, Jason, Emma, Ben, Phil, Justin

---

7-8 June 2025

## **Chris's Introduction to winter tramping: trip 2. Woolshed Creek Hut**

Chris lead a Plan C trip to Woolshed Creek Hut on the weekend.

With roads being closed due to snowfall the planned trip to the Hawdon hut was shifted at the last minute to Woolshed Creek Hut.

9 hardy fools set off from Z Papanui with the hope that we would actually make to the start of a track and therefore a hut. We met up with Marijke and her very useful Ford Ranger ute at Mt Somers. We continued along with the road conditions getting more challenging. We had to abandon Chris's Honda along Jig road as it had become a snow plough with traction issues. We piled into the Ranger and carefully made our way to the car-park.

We set off along the general direction of the track and entered a world of snow laden trees and odd icy snow dump down the back of the neck.

After about an hour of breaking trail we reached the Blackburn Mine where we stopped for lunch. Suitably fortified we continued on snow-plodding. We took the fence-line and 4WD route in on the basis that the snow wouldn't be as deep that way. And we were correct: we only had to post-hole through almost waist deep snow. A couple of guy's who tried going the regular way ended up flailing around in chest deep snow before abandoning their attempt and following our trail.

We eventually made it to the hut in the mid-afternoon. It had taken us 4 hours to do the 5 km to the hut. Some people got some wood in and got the fire going while Fengmin and myself cleared a path to the toilets and dug them out.

After our labours we decided it was time to start on the main activity for the trip: the feast. Our entrees included German cookies, an antipasto platter, Camembert cheese with honey, walnuts and cranberries. The main was warmed ham with mashed potatoes and a pineapple sauce. The meal was finished off with trifle and Christmas cake but no wafer thin mints.

After a toasty night's sleep we had a hearty breakfast that included the leftover trifle and Christmas cake we headed off.

It was much easier going on the return journey with a now well trodden path to follow back. It took us a leisurely 2 hours 20 minutes to make the return journey.

It was an excellent weekend away with good company, views and food.

---

20-22 June 2025

## **Marks Matariki Madness at Mataketake**

For Marks Matariki trip instalment three, the plan was less week-long adventures in Fiordland Rain/ Mud, more overnight trip to an awesome hut in a cool place, so it was off to Mataketake Hut for this Matariki.

Eight keen adventurers set out on Friday morning at a respectable 8am, there was the now mandatory pie stop at Sheffield with the plan to have lunch at the Hokitika Sandwich Company followed by a tree top walk. Alas, the weather and the public holiday opening hours (or lack of them) conspired to scamper both events, so, as no one wanted to brave the rain, it was straight on to the night's accommodation, the NZAC Lodge at Fox Glacier. The weather had improved by the time we got to Fox so after dropping gear, we headed up to the Fox Glacier walk to warm up for the next day, meeting the Wanaka of the CTC

(Emma Turton, not on our trip but exploring the area and staying at the Lodge) on the way back to the cars. Dinner ended up at a place that has always been busy when I have been in Fox, Betsey Jane, now I can see why as all agreed it was very nice although my Dessert needed more chocolate. Back at the Lodge, Emma bought out the Bananagram, Megan Vink proving her superior intelligence by winning every round, while Justin found the letters just too much so put in minimal effort and I spent too much time on trying to come up with big words.

Saturday started off with an hour-long drive down to the Haast-Paringa Cattle track carpark, the weather was great so after consultation with Co-leader/ Cruise Director Joanna, it was decided to do the Mica Route in Good weather and we set off just after 9am with DOC saying it would take us 8 hours to get to Mataketake Hut but me knowing differently. It was a very brisk pace, and I was languishing at the back, partly due to having a bottle of "Ribena" and 2 pineapples in my pack, partly as there were plenty of Tom Tits and Fantails to chat to. After a break at Blowfly Hut (I refuse to call it by its proper name), we set off up the cattle track to the turn off. After a break at the turn off, it was up the never-ending zig zags of the Mica Route, it was about now my decision to bring 2 pineapples really started to sound like bad planning as once again I struggled at the back. I was happy to see that the co-leader had decided to stop at a large rock just above the treeline and we all sat admiring the view while having a bite to eat. Then It was time to head off along the tops to the hut, low cloud only briefly interrupting the great views and small amounts of ice/ snow to keep us vigilant.

By just after 3 (that's 6 hours if you are counting, 2 hours under DOC time), we arrived at the Hut, I was a little disappointed to find that someone had beaten me to the reorganising of the bookshelf (I had a few quibbles about their ordering but overall, not bad). I decided it was time to pull out one of the pineapples so we could all enjoy a cold treat, out come some of the other treats and we sat around the table enjoying pineapple, chocolate, cheese, and other yummy snacks. Thoughts of climbing the nearby hill met with a general 'no thanks' and no one decided to test out a small ice-covered tarn to see if it would bear their weight, so we all settled into an evening of talking and taking in the great views/ environment in a warm hut thanks to Jacks fire-lighting talents. Out came more treats and some liquids that they had bought, I enjoyed a Celtic Coffee and my Ribena while others had less appealing sounding options. But around 9pm, we decided to call it a night and hit the bunks. Around 2am, I decided to sleep under the stars in peace so dragged my mattress outside and slept on the porch.

We had planned to get away by 8am, this looked a little unlikely at 6.45am when no one was up and about. However, we all got up around 7am, and after some more pineapple (I'd be damned if I was going to carry it any further) and breakfast, we set off down the Maori Saddle Route in light misty rain just after 8am. DOC said it would take 9 hours to get back to the car, but we are a hardy bunch and made it to Maori Saddle Hut but 9.30am, some deciding to bag the hut while I didn't feel the need to visit that very cold/ damp looking Hut again. The Cattle track is very easy travel for us hardy souls, so by 11.30am we were back at the junction with the Mica Route, I offered everyone lunch at Blowfly Hut, but it was decided to skip it and try to get back to the car early. Off we went at our brisk pace and by 1pm, the cars came into view.

It was now the 8-hour odyssey to get home would commence, my mix of Scandinavian folk music/ 70's Turkish pop/ trip hop met with approval (more so than Jesus Christ Superstar on the way down where I had to sing all the parts!), so we had some good tunes for me to drive the first stint back to the lodge at Fox where we had left a change of clothes. After a quick wardrobe change, we set off for dinner at Hokitika, unfortunately our brisk pace

meant we were too early for the dinner menu at the places we tried in Hokitika so decided to settle for the Pub at Kumara or if worst came to worst, the Wobbly Kea in Arthurs Pass. The Pub at Kumara was happy to see the 8 of us so it was there we had a dinner before taking off again for the drive back to Christchurch, I had learnt from previous epic drives so split the driving which gave me time to relax and rest the eyes. By 9pm, it was home, happy after another instalment of the Mark Matariki Adventure.

Stay turned for Matariki 2026, the plans are already in motion, will it be another overnighter or back to something more Mark style? Stay tuned!

A special thanks to all the adventurers/ drivers/ co-leaders, it was a great trip, maybe the best so far!

Participants: Mark Nicholls (Leader, Scribe), Joanna Buchajczyk (co-leader), Justin Loh, Megan Vink, Michelle Samson, Jack O'Connor, Safka Dowding and Diana Dolensky

---

## Classifieds

---

On 17 July, the **Packraft Association of NZ** alongside Blue Duck Packrafts is bringing the International Packraft Film Festival to Christchurch.

We're hoping that you are happy to share the event on your social channels and newsletter.

Tickets and information are at <https://events.humanitix.com/ipff-christchurch>.

Thanks heaps, if you need more information, please give me a call.

Ngā mihi, Glenn 021 993 413

---

---

## More about the CTC

---

**CTC Overdue Trips:** Members/family/partners or a nominated person concerned about a trip being overdue should firstly discuss this with a Key Contact when they feel that the trip is delayed. Key Contacts know where to obtain copies of the Trip Lists containing the names and addresses of the party members with their vehicle registration details etc. This will greatly assist Police Search and Rescue. The Key Contact can then contact the Police directly. Concerned people should keep trying different numbers until they actually contact a Key Contact (**do not leave messages**).

We recommend you start with the Club Captain, then the Gear Custodian, then the Presidents, then the Trip Organiser, then people listed under Our Club Hut – if no contact can be made then the Police. Refer to the list of Key Contacts below, and on [www.ctc.org.nz](http://www.ctc.org.nz). Members (particularly Trip Leaders) please discuss this arrangement with your loved ones so they are aware of this procedure.

## Key Contacts

<i>President:</i>	Natasha Sydorenko		<i>Trip Organiser:</i>	Rachel Perkinson	+64 20 4069 4627
<i>Vice President:</i>	Gort Stephan	02040854415	<i>Social Convenor:</i>	Kayleigh Gilkes	020 4110 7446
<i>Secretary:</i>	Bryce Williamson	021-0232-2310	<i>Gear Custodian:</i>	Alan Ross	021 962884
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Pam Bunz	+64 27 220 1955	<i>Editor:</i>	Peter Hinchey	0225948023
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Daniel Weatherley	+64 21 220 0710	<i>Hut Convenor:</i>	Chris McGimpsey	027 657 3070
<i>Club Captain:</i>	Michal Klajban	020 4196 3548	<i>IT Convenor:</i>	Alan Chapman	+64 22 327 2832
<i>New Members Rep:</i>	John Kerkhofs	+64 21 2429253	<i>Access Officer:</i>	Ian Dunn	0212141907

Please have stuff for the next newsletter to the editor  
([editor@ctc.org.nz](mailto:editor@ctc.org.nz)) by 24 July 2025 – Thanks.

---