

Newsletter

Hagley Tramping Club



Published by Hagley Tramping Club
P.O Box 852, Christchurch 8140, NZ

www.hagleytrampingclub.net.nz

Affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY 2012

Chairperson	Dennis Ws	Ph 359 1211
Club Captain	Mike R	Ph 337 5944
Secretary & Membership	Wendy T	Ph 354 2277
Treasurer	Heather M	Ph 332 6281
Newsletter	Bronwyn M	Ph 359 7331
Website	Claire T	Ph 339 0992

Welcome to the **Hagley Tramping Club** Newsletter.

The **Hagley Tramping Club** was originally established as the Hospital Tramping Club in 1974 with the aim of making the back country experience more accessible to the average person and to foster a respect for the wilderness. The Club organises a variety of trips to suit all ages and levels of fitness. We encourage prospective new members to experience 2 or 3 trips to see if we suit their style before joining.

Newsletter Contents

Calendar of Trips & Social Events, Trip Reports & Pictures. For information about Meeting dates & location, Trip Gradings, Checklist for Day Trips, Overnight Trips, Departure Point & Membership, refer the last two pages of this Newsletter.

Club Email Address

For general communication the club email address now is:

hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz

For information about trips, please ring the Trip Leader.

Subscription Fees Due

Subscriptions for 2012-2013 are due on 1 April. Payment options are on the enclosed forms. Please update your contact details if they have changed and supply next of kin details if we don't have them.

Back Country Foods Orders

Place your order by 26 April for delivery at the May AGM (or by arrangement).

The prices are considerably below shop prices (see enclosed order form).

Pay by cheque (made out to Hagley Tramping Club NOT Back Country Foods) at a meeting or posted to HTC, PO Box 852, ChCh 8140.

To pay by internet banking pay to the account on your subscription form, Include your name and "BC Foods". Please do not combine BC food payments with membership subs.

The next order will be placed in November.

Mid-Winter Xmas Weekend 7-8 July

A great weekend by tradition! See those dates for more detail.

From Your Committee

AGM

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 23 May. (See Newsletter for details). We would welcome new members. The Committee meets every second month for about 2hrs. Our challenge for 2012 is to build the active membership. If you have some ideas about that and a bit of time to support our activities, we would really value your contribution.

(P.S. We avoid long boring meetings!)

Trip Gradings

After much discussion the Committee has reached agreement on a change to the trip gradings. We have done this for two reasons. Firstly to use grading "words" which will have more meaning for someone not familiar with our ABCD ratings and secondly, to bring us generally into line with gradings used by other clubs.

The new gradings will be used in the next newsletter. For a description of the gradings used in this newsletter, see the second to last page.

New Gradings:

EASY: A day tramp for almost anyone who can walk 5-6 hrs. Possibly some short gentle slopes, but generally on a track or flat riverbed.

MODERATE: Longer tramp of up to 7hrs, requiring a reasonable level of fitness. Usually involving some uphill sections and generally on a track.

MODERATE PLUS: A long tramp of up to 8 hrs requiring good level of fitness. More difficult terrain, varying gradients including steep slopes. *Ice axe & crampons may be required.

HARD: A challenging trip requiring excellent fitness and experience. 8-10+hrs tramping on high passes and untracked routes. *Ice axe & crampons may be required.

(*If these items are required, it will be stated in the Trip Description)

Personal Locator Beacons & Delayed Trip Returns

Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) are carried on every Club trip.

They are to be activated only in a serious emergency situation.

They would not be activated if the trip was just delayed returning.

Return delays can be caused by for example, track closures (requiring a change in route), weather (affecting routes & rivers) and travel conditions (road closures & breakdowns)

Consequently return times are always a bit uncertain.

If you have concerns about a delayed return please contact one of the following Club members.

Sandra 03 980 4140

Dennis 03 359 1211

Bronwyn 03 359 7331

Neal 03 343 6980

These members are contacts if the PLB is activated.

For overnight trips, they will know who is on the trip and if there was any change in plans (before leaving Christchurch) different to what was published in the Newsletter.

This information in summarised form will be in the last pages of future Newsletters.



Unexpected track closure!

The notice was dated the day before we arrived to start the trip.

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Sunday 4 March	Mt Alford 1171m	
Leaders Claire & Diana Ph 339 0992	Grade B	Transport \$20
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am		

Join us for a tramp in the Canterbury foothills between Mt Somers & Mt Peel. We will be ascending through beech forest & subalpine vegetation to the summit of Mt Alford where we will have great views across the Canterbury Plains and inland mountains. Have lunch and return the same way.

Wednesday 7 March 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Claire's

Saturday 10 March	Cold Stream Hut, Lake Sumner Forest Park	
Leader Neal Ph 343 6980	Grade B	Transport \$30
Depart from Belfast Tavern car park at 7.30am		


We will drive to Jollybrook swing bridge near Lake Sumner. Walk to Cold Stream Hut for lunch and return the same way. Wet boots on this trip as some 30 river crossings, well – shallow creek really!. A beautiful valley to enjoy. Cancelled if bad weather, especially nor'-west rain. Phone for confirmation if in doubt.

Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March	Mt Barron, Arthurs Pass NP	
Leader Mike R. Ph 337 5944	Grade CD	Transport \$35
Please book with Mike by Saturday 10 March		

Leaving early Saturday we will head for Otira. We will climb to a tarn below Mt Barron summit and pitch our tents. If the weather is good we can then head up to the summit (1730m). If overcast, this is an option for Sunday. Tramp out Sunday, either the way we came in or those who are after an adventure can take an alternative route.

Saturday 24 March	Mt Cloudesley- Mt Enys	
Leaders Bill & Wendy ph 3542277	Grade C	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.00am		

Map K34. From Castle Hill Village we climb through beech forest and up Long Spur to the summit of Mt Cloudesley. Those feeling sprightly enough can go on to Mt Enys. These are the highest peaks in the Craieburn Range (Mt Cloudesley is at 2107m). We will gain 1300m height. Return by the same route.

Wednesday 28 March	Abberley Park Hall
	<p>Mountaineering with Steven Fortune.</p> <p>We are lucky enough to have one of our own come and share with us his expedition experiences to places including Alaska and the European Alps. Join us for an evening of adventure and alpine exploration.</p> <p>Come along and show our club enthusiasm for our guest.</p>

*Sunday 1 April	Anti Crow Hut	
Leader Sandra F. Ph 980 4140	Grade AB	Transport \$25
Depart Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am		

This trip starts from the small carpark near the Waimakariri Road Bridge on the true right of the river. The route follows a good track to Turkey Flat and poles lead to the Anti Crow Hut, where we will have lunch. Return the same way.



*Daylight Saving ends Sunday 1 April, clocks go back 1 hour

Friday 6 April to Monday 9 April Easter Weekend	Lake Man & Top Hope Hot Spring Stream	
Leaders Bill and Wendy ph 354 2277	Grade C	Transport \$30
Please book with Bill and Wendy by Friday 30 March		

Maps L32 & M32. We will drive to the Boyle River and head up the Doubtful River, with a climb to Lake Man. Possibly camping by the lake. Saturday we take the track down to the Hope River to camp by the hot springs. Sunday we plan to stay at the St Jacobs Hut, walking out down the Hope River on Monday. Bring own tents, cookers etc.

Sunday 15 April	Craigieburn Range Explorer	
Leader Dennis ph 359 1211	Grade B	Transport \$16
Depart Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.30am.		

Drive to Craigieburn Visitors Centre and park the cars. We walk up the road to Broken River Ski Field, up through the ski field (tussocks & scree), onto the ridge of the Craigieburn Range and along the ridge to Nervous Knob (1820m)

Wednesday 18 April 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Wendy's

Sunday 22 April	Hinewai Reserve	
Leader Tere ph 9816431	Grade AB	Transport \$25
Depart from Halswell School at 8am		

Starting from the Hinewai Lodge car park (over the hill from Akaroa) we will go down to the beach, around the valley and return up to the carpark. A 5-6 hour walk with some climbs.

<p>Wednesday 25 April 5pm Anzac Day</p> 	<p>Pot Luck Dinner</p> <p>Join us for a potluck dinner at Claire's place starting with a short easy walk around the Wigram Pond in Curletts Reserve to build up an appetite. All family and friends are welcome - this is a great opportunity for a relaxed catch up. Ring/txt Claire for address details: Ph 339 0992 or 021 0762500.</p>
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Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 April	ARE YOU PREPARED?	
Leader Mike R. ph 337 5944	Grade B	Transport \$25
Book with Mike by Monday 23 April. Depart Yaldhurst Hotel 8am.		

Arthurs Pass Park Map. From the Hawdon Shelter, up the East Hawdon and return the following day. This is a training trip: please bring your normal day pack for an overnight stay under the warm stars. If you want to feel safer then put your day pack contents into your overnight pack. Are you an asset or a liability when tramping light?! Contact Mike if unsure what to bring.

Wednesday 2 May 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Bronwyn's

Sunday 6 May	Bike Ride Leeston / Rakaia Huts / Taumutu	
Leaders Barry & Pauline ph 329 4414	Grade N/A	Transport \$10
Depart Tai Tapu School at 9am		
Please ring if you can offer or require bike transport.		

The ride takes us through the quiet rural town of Southbridge to Rakaia Huts with its well-kept cottages and rugged seascape. We then head for Fisherman's Point, opposite the southern end of the Kaitorete Spit and just past the settlement of Taumutu. Our return ride to Leeston is via Lakeside. Total distance around 50 - 55km, (7km of gravel road, otherwise all sealed).

Sunday 13 May	Pigeon Bay Walkway	
Leader Bronwyn ph 3597331	Grade AB	Transport \$20
Depart Halswell School at 8am		

Starting from the Pigeon Bay Domain we will follow the Pigeon Bay walkway out to the headland for some great coastal views. A 3 to 3.5 hour return walk, easy gradients. Bring plenty of water.

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 May	Carroll Hut, Kelly Range	
Leader Dennis ph 359 1211	Grade B	Transport \$35
Book with Dennis by Sunday 13 May.		

Depart Saturday morning to Kellys Creek car park, a few kms passed Otira. We have a good hard climb through forest & alpine shrub to Carroll Hut situated on a tussock flat above the bushline. The next day climb Kelly's Hill (1394m) and return home the same way. Carroll Hut has no heating, so warm clothes essential for this time of year.

Wednesday 23 May 7.30pm

Annual General Meeting

AGM

Abberley

Crescent

Hall,

St

Albans

All welcome!

Please bring a supper plate.

This is your opportunity to have input into the running of the Club. Come along and find out about the Club's financial position, plans for 2012 and to vote on Club office holders.

Any queries? Contact Dennis ph 359 1211

Sunday 27 May	Magazine Bay - Cass Bay	
Leader Tere ph 981 6431	Grade A	Transport gold coin
Depart 31 Silvester St, Woolston at 9.30am		

Starting from Magazine Bay, a gentle walk to Corsair Bay and round to Cass Bay for a picnic. Return the same way.

Saturday 02 – Monday 04 June	Amuri Pass	
Queen's Birthday Weekend		
Leaders Neal ph 343 6980 & Dennis	Grade BC	Transport \$30
Contact Neal by 27 May for departure place and time		

Starting at the Doubtful/Boyle confluence, proceed up the Doubtful Valley to Doubtless Hut. Sunday we explore over Amuri Pass to and into the Waiheke. Monday we return to the cars by the same route.

Wednesday 06 June 7.00pm. Trip Planning Meeting at Neal's

Sunday 10 June	Mt Vernon farm track	
Leader Michael B. ph 358 3081	Grade A	Transport N/A
Depart from end of Hillsborough Tce 9am		

An easy stroll up the Mt Vernon farm track, starting from Hillsborough Terrace, Some variations possible depending on the party and the day.


Saturday 16 – Sunday 17 June	Magdalen Hut, Boyle River	
Leader Glenda ph 942 4293	AB	Transport \$25
Book with Glenda by Sunday 10 June		

Join us for an approximately 4 hour mid-winter walk to overnight at the Magdalen Hut in Lake Sumner Forest Park. The keen may do extra day walking from there. This is a standard 6-bunk hut so carrymats may be needed depending on the size of the party. There is a fireplace for heating.

Wednesday 20 June 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Heather's

Sunday 24 June	Mt Bradley	
Leader Mike R. ph 337 5944	Grade B	Transport \$12
Depart Halswell School at 8am		

A walk from Orton Bradley Park to the top of Mt Bradley taking the route through the bluffs. Enjoy some great views! Return the same way.

Wednesday 27 June	Pizza & Pasta Night
	<p>Join your fellow trampers, family and friends for an evening of fun at Winnie Bagoes Ferrymead. 2 Waterman Pl. (off Ferry Rd). Meet at 6.30pm and be seated by 7pm. Gluten free & vegetarian meals available.</p> <p>Book with Sandra F. by Friday 22 June.</p>

Sunday 01 July	Kate Valley – Tiromoana Bush	
Leader Sandra F Ph 980 4140	Grade A	Transport \$15
Depart from Belfast Hotel car park (at the rear) at 8.30am.		

Drive to Waipara and on to Kate Valley, where the loop track awaits. It takes approx 5 hours. After lunch we'll go down to the beach then return along the farm track. Please remember to bring plenty of water as none is available along the track.

Saturday 07–Sunday 08 July	Midwinter Christmas Base Camp (Peel Forest)	
Leader Heather Murray ph332 6281	All Grades	Transport \$25
Contact Heather for further details and to book by Friday 22 June.		

Depart Saturday morning for the comfortable Peel Forest Ecolodge. Cost \$23 - \$26 depending on numbers (max 22). Pot luck Christmas Dinner, Secret Santa gifts and best Christmas Hat competition. Tramps to suit all levels including a winter ascent of little Mt Peel (crampons may be required), Allan's Track loop (3 hours - easy) and many short walks. Alternative options are Waihi and Orari Gorges near Geraldine.

Trip Reports

Travers-Sabine trip 9-14th November

Bill and Wendy, Glenda, Heather, Claire and Diana. Leader Neal

After meeting at the Templeton's we all set off in the early afternoon of the 9th for Lake Rotoiti via Lewis Pass. We stopped at Springs Junction for coffee by which time it was raining steadily, only to find my 4WD had a puncture! The local garage fixed it and an hour later off we sailed to Murchison where we stopped for fuel and snacks. It continued to rain all the way to St Arnaud and Lake Rotoiti looked a bit misty as we drove into the DOC camping ground.

We changed into tramping gear in a shelter by the camp ground and much to the amazement of some Aussie tourists, headed off into the bush walkway around the northern side of the lake towards our planned first night at Lake Head Hut 3 hours away. It kept raining and soon was dark which made for interesting walking but not unpleasant and soon the hut appeared; its light twinkling in the distance. Alas! Instead of an empty hut cunningly planned by yours truly, it was chocker with students from Queen Charlotte College on an outdoors adventure trip. Most managed to squeeze some floor space, while I pitched my tent in the rain and went to bed, only to be woken by a kea which proceeded to peck holes in the side of my tent floor ... off to a good start...not.

Thursday dawned fine and clear and soon we were fed and off up the valley searching for the track. After some wandering the track was found and we made good time up the picturesque Travers valley. We lunched at the John Tait Hut and took photos of an impressive landslide which had stopped a few metres short of the hut. It would have been scary for any occupants for sure.

The sunny day just got better as we cruised up the steeper section of the valley to the Upper Travers Hut where the views were stunning and the trampers weary. (Except for Bill of course who climbed over the pass to check it out before dinner). A very pleasant evening was enjoyed at this very nice comfy hut which we had to ourselves for a change and we were looking forward to the climb over the pass the next day.

Friday turned up a cracker with a crisp frost to get the legs pumping and soon we were climbing up the steep track past marker poles, thankful for the ice axes providing purchase in the deep frozen snow. The sun was out and brows were more than moist as we ploughed on up and up and up. At last the gradient eased and we found ourselves on the snow-covered Travers Pass under a clear blue sky and feeling pretty special. Lots of chatter and congratulations as we rested and enjoyed the awesome views. Then 5 of us decided to take a side trip to check out some frozen tarns to the east of the pass and then found ourselves cutting steps up the climb onto the Rainbow Saddle looking down into the Rainbow Valley. More photos and excitement as we discussed future trips planned and past trips knocked off in that area.

Back to the pass to find Diana and Heather had set off down the long descent ahead of us and had left a note saying "see you for lunch". About halfway down we met them and lazed away a 45-minute lunch in the sun soaking up the endless views and rays.

It's 1000 metres down to the hut so we made our way down the knee-killing steep track getting quite spread out in the process till we levelled out and crossed the bridge crossing the chasm of the Sabine stream. Then down again not so steep until we reached the West Sabine Hut which is upstream from the swing bridge over The Sabine about 10 minutes.

At this hut was a crew installing new toilets so we got to see the helicopter fly in and take out the crew and their gear. Very exciting! We settled in and took turns bathing in the river -brrrr damn it was cold! Then a relaxing afternoon before a cookup and tired bodies lurched off to bed.

Day 4 was misty and overcast with rain threatening so after much encouragement of one or two slow risers we got ourselves kitted and away down the Sabine valley on an easy gentle track with just a couple of climbs but just lovely after the previous day's big effort. It rained on and off during what was to be the easiest morning walk down to Lake Rotoroa which was swathed in mist and cloud like a *Lord of the Rings* scene, just beautiful. Well, more photos, lunch in the Sabine hut, more photos then we strolled out on the jetty and admired large eels swimming under our feet. More photos.

Then off up the steady climb to look for a campsite at Howard Stream. This part of the trip was really interesting with long stretches of walkways over wetlands with the distinctively conical kaikawaka or New Zealand cedar tree, with its dark foliage, stringy bark and often twisted trunk. Quite ethereal and gave us pause to stop for a wee rest at a viewing platform to enjoy the scenery.

Bill and I saw a rare kaka up in the trees but it avoided being photographed.

By about 4 o'clock we reached Howard stream and set up tents in light rain, which of course ceased once the tents were up! I spotted a stoat on the riverbed next morning skittering up the creek in the early sun. After a leisurely breakfast we packed up and started our last day in good spirits, all feeling fit and ready for the final push out. We made it to Speargrass Hut for morning tea, then Bill and I went ahead to Mt Robert car park and down the endless gravel road to the foot of the lake to pick up the vehicles.

We arrived back at the car park at the same time as the others came strolling out of the bush, huge smiles all round. Coffee and snacks at Murchison again then the long drive home. A trip to remember with an awesome team. Thanks guys.

The Milford Track

Tuesday 3 January 2012 – it was great to feel we were finally about to start this trip. The trampers 12 in total, plus a few support crew (wives and partners) were all assembling at Te Anau Downs Lodge the night before we were off on our way. (Special thanks to Tania the Manager at Te Anau Downs Lodge who happily accommodated our continually changing plans and provided anything we needed.)

A potluck feast at the Lodge, and a fine night walk along the lake edge to check out the boat for the next day and admire the striking sky of dark clouds and surreal light. Everyone was enthused and the weather forecast was promising.

The idea for this trip started in May when Tere and I were wandering along the Methven Walkway talking about what was on our “Bucket List” of tramps. Milford was one which we both never quite had the previous opportunity to do. Too far away, too expensive, had to be booked months in advance, couldn’t postpone if the weather was bad etc. We decided to float the idea for early January when most trampers would be on holiday and some would be free to go. We never expected 12, our biggest multiday trip for a long time.

Prior to Milford, some took the opportunity to have a couple of days in Glenorchy first and hiked up to the Invincible Mine to stretch the legs. Glenorchy was just beautiful and thanks again to Robert (and Marianne too this time) for their hospitality.

Wednesday 4th was fine as we boarded the afternoon boat with about 30 other “freedom” trampers and 40 guided trampers for the 1.25hr trip up the lake. Interesting boat trip and we learned some history along the way. Our first experience of Milford rivers (Clinton) and Fiordland forest as we tramped our way to Clinton Hut. It was first in first served for the beds so we ended up somewhat scattered around the bunkrooms. Ross was the Hut Warden (or more correctly the Track Warden), a bean pole with broad shoulders who provided our first very informative history and nature lesson. He welcomed us to a “22-day drought” in Milford and showed us how the tree mosses had shrunk as a result. He had great stories of guiding trampers through flooded tracks – umm – we were happy with the dry, thanks!

Next day it was raining lightly as we headed up the Clinton River to Mintaro Hut. On the way checked out a telephone “embedded” in a tree, a relic of the telephone line that once ran the length of the track. Stopped to see waterfalls and ponds with eels. The weather cleared at Mintaro and we strolled out to Lake Mintaro to see blue ducks and trout. That night the hut warden warned of rain closing in from late morning (actually it turned out fine all the next day) and advised as to get up to McKinnon Pass early to make the most of the weather. Consequently we were up and away by 7am.

McKinnon Pass is mostly a very gently graded zigzag – no sweat for anyone in our group. On top it was cold and misty. As the mist swirled in and out we were greeted with fantastic views of the surrounding peaks and valleys – spectacular, and at our feet a variety of alpine flowers. After a break at the shelter and a loo

with a million dollar view we dropped off the pass and down into the Arthur River to our next point of interest – Sutherland Falls. They are high – very high 5th highest in the world! With lower than normal flows the brave and adventurous amongst us (the women I have to confess) felt compelled to test their parkas by climbing around, behind the falls and out the other side. Refreshing is an understatement!

And onto our last stop Dumpling Hut – so called because it faces a “hill” that is supposed to look like a dumpling, I can only assume the person who named it was somewhat starved and delirious at the time. There are several points of interest on the track to Sandfly Point: McKay Falls, Bell Rock, Rock Cutting, Giant Gate Falls, Lake Ada, BUT we had to be at Sandfly Point for the 2pm boat so we were continually tracking where we were to ensure we didn't miss it. In the end we were all there by 1.40pm and the boat arrived 10 min later. I'm pleased to report that Sandfly Point didn't have excessive sandflies, probably thanks to the drier than normal weather.

So it was a quick boat trip, 2 hours on the bus and we were all back at Te Anau Downs Lodge and not long after that in Te Anau for pizzas.

This trip was truly spectacular as only Fiordland can be: Magnificent forests, rivers, mountains, huge vertical rock bluffs, waterfalls and birds. A great trip with a really great team to enjoy it with.

The team: Tere, Claire, Diana, Sandra, Russell, Marie, Carol, Helen, Glenda, Bronwyn, Heather & Dennis (Scribe)

Mt Richardson

The day dawned grey and overcast, but not cold and with little wind. Glenda and Sergei were the only volunteers but in spite of this we agreed that a chance to improve our fitness shouldn't be missed. There were a few glimpses of blue sky along the road through Loburn but when we reached Glentui, Mt Richardson was well covered by cloud. So with vague hopes of clearing weather we started to climb. Conditions were perfect for walking, cool with little breeze and we made good time and were on the peak in a couple of hours with visibility at about 5 metres and a light drizzle falling. We lingered only long enough to sample Glenda's homemade pesto.

Moving on along the Blowhard Track was eerie and surreal with the mist wafting around the old tree trunks and all the manuka in full flower it looked like a scene from Lord of the Rings with the occasional lycra clad Hobbit rushing by (Coast To Coast training we thought). We found a sheltered spot in a Manuka grove for lunch and then turned on to the Bypass Track for a quick descent via the waterfall view point to the carpark.

With the day still young an exploration of the stream below the waterfall was proposed but at the first bend a waist-deep pool caused a reassessment and this was postponed to a later, warmer and better-equipped occasion so it was on to Oxford for afternoon tea and the end of a great day with good company but no views.

Tere

Enjoyed a great trip with the Club?

Why not write up a Trip Report so others can enjoy reading about it?

Please type up and email to the club: hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz

Good Trip Photos needed too!

Please email your best photos to: hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz with a note which explains which trip the photos were taken on.

Trip Pics



Travers—Sabine





Hawdon Base Camp





**The
Milford
Track**



Red Hill Foothills



Crater Rim Track



**Glenlock Base Camp
(Motunau Beach Rd)**



Meeting dates & locations

Our General Meetings are generally held on the 4th Wednesday of every month. As this may vary, please check program for confirmation and venue location.

Abberley Crescent Hall is the venue for most of our general meetings. Abberley Crescent continues west from Edgware Rd after it crosses Springfield Rd. The hall is located in a small reserve on the first bend in the road. Road parking only.

Trip Gradings

Grade	Description
AA	A walk of less than 5 hrs on a good track. Any uphill sections are short and gentle
A	Easy tramp of up to 6 hrs generally on a track. Uphill sections are short and/or gentle.
AB	A harder trip than an A but not as hard as a B
B	Moderate tramp of up to 7hrs which may be off track or include rough sections. Often uphill all morning but mostly on reasonable slopes.
BC	A harder trip than a B, but not as hard as a C
C	Hard tramp of up to 8hrs often on a rough route. Uphill usually continuous and/or on steep slopes
D	Very hard tramp which may be greater than 8 hrs on difficult routes, probably with steep uphill climbs. Ice axe/crampons may be required

The Trip Leader is responsible for the safety and well being of everyone on the trip. Therefore the Trip Leader has the right to refuse to take anyone, who, in his or her opinion, is not equipped, or fit for the trip in any way.

Checklist for a Day Trip

Essential	Essential (Cont)	Optional
Day pack	Warm hat	Walking pole
*Parka (Essential)	Gloves	Camera
*Warm clothes (wool or polyprop)		Binoculars
Strong walking shoes or boots	Seasonal	
Food & drink	Sun glasses	
Sun screen	Sun hat	

*Due to changeable and often unpredictable nature of the weather in Canterbury, a good waterproof parka and warm clothing must be carried for all trips.

Overnight Trips

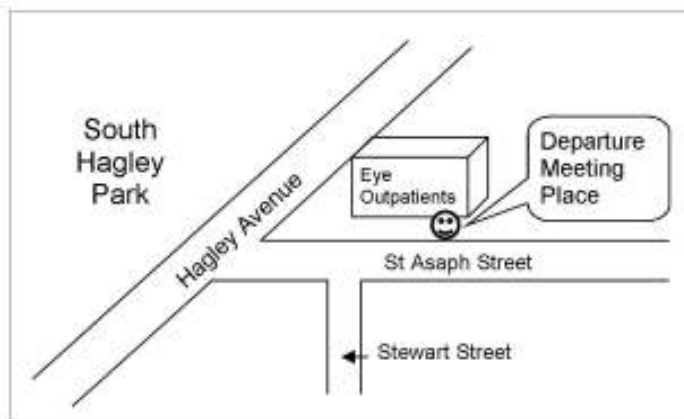
If you are planning to go on an overnight trip, please contact Trip Leader for information about food and equipment requirements.

Departure Point

As departure points can differ by trip, always check the Trip Schedule for correct departure location.

This map shows the location of the St Asaph Street departure place, outside the Christchurch Hospital Eye Department. Please arrive at the meeting place at least 5 minutes before the departure time.

Car pooling is organised when the group meets. Cars remaining in Christchurch are parked in nearby Stewart St.



About our trips

Typical numbers on our trips are 4 – 10 people. For safety reasons, the minimum of people on a Club trip is four. However if there are fewer than four, the trip can still go ahead but becomes a private and not an official Club trip.

As a safety precaution, a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) is carried on all trips. The club owns two which have been purchased with funding from the Christchurch City Council. The PLBs are lightweight and utilise the latest in GPS technology.

Club Membership

Our annual membership subscription is \$25 single or \$30 family. Our financial year commences 1 April.

We encourage prospective new members to experience 2 or 3 trips to see if we suit their style before joining.