

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.

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2012 JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2013

Chairperson	Dennis W	Ph 359 1211
Club Captain	Michael R	Ph 337 5944
Secretary	Rose C	Ph 332 6005
Treasurer	Heather M	Ph 332 6281
Newsletter	Bronwyn M	Ph 359 7331
Website	Claire T	Ph 339 0992
Members Contact	Sandra F	Ph 980 4140

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.

New Members

Three new members have joined the club since the last Newsletter. A warm welcome to Brigette Visagie, Frik Van Manen and Simon Lock. We are sure you will enjoy our future trips as much as we will and look forward to meeting up with you again on our tramps.

From Your Committee

Welcome to another Club Newsletter.

Once again the Trip Leaders have put up a great range of trips with something for everyone. Other than the usual break over *Xmas and New Year we have a tramping or biking event every weekend. *[But wait there's more: A big trip has been planned for the end of December.]

The last few months have not been kind to West Coast trips with several cancelled due to wet NW conditions. Not just slightly wet either – really torrential wet. As we go to print it remains to be seen as to whether Mike's Julia Hut trip is a goer over Labour Weekend. Fingers crossed!

FMC Photo Competition

Got some great photos? The Federation of Mountain Clubs of which we are a member holds a photo competition every year in five different categories. If you've got a great pic you would like to enter see the FMC website for more information.

<http://www.fmc.org.nz/services-to-clubs/photo-competition/> for details.

Entries close 17 April 2013.

The Club is planning to hold a photo competition for the March Meeting. The best club photos will be put into the FMC Competition.

Back Country Foods

The club will place an order on behalf of members in November.

Closing date for orders: Sunday 18 November (Show Weekend).

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

Please send orders with money to HTC, PO Box 852, ChCh 8140 to reach the PO Box by Sunday 18 Nov.

The food will be available for pick up at the Club Xmas function on Saturday 1 Dec (or by arrangement).

Please contact the Treasurer if you wish to pay by internet banking. Cheques are to be made out to Hagley Tramping Club not Back Country Foods. The club will cover the delivery cost.

Club Xmas Function

Mark up your calendar for Saturday 1st December as Dennis has offered to host our Christmas dinner party at his home. We always have a great turn-out for the Xmas Party and a good time had by all.

As usual, partners are very welcome.

This is a BYO drinks and pot-luck dinner so bring along something yummy to share and don't forget a gift of \$5 to \$10 for the number of people who come with you.

We have a theme of 'Bright'n'Tight' so be inspired and come along and see how wacky some people can be!

Please contact Dennis (Ph 359 1211) for any further information and directions to his home.

See this date in the Newsletter for more information.

Wednesday February 20th Private Movies Night

We are very fortunate to have booked into a private theatre to see unique NZ films.

A couple of things to note:

1. Normally our social events are on the 4th Wednesday, but this event in Feb is on the third Wednesday.
2. Bookings are essential as we have to meet a minimum number. Please book with Tere Ph 981 6431 by Sunday 10 February.
3. There is a \$6/person cost and that includes supper.

See this date in the Newsletter for more information.

Central Otago Rail Trail

We have planned a club trip to bike the Rail Trail, departing ChCh Wednesday Feb 27 and returning Sunday March 03. See these dates in the Newsletter for more information.


Planning a group trip like this requires organisation and early bookings to get the preferred options.

If you are possibly coming on this trip, whether your commitment is confirmed or not, please contact Dennis by Sunday 2nd December or earlier.

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Saturday 20 to Monday 22 October (Labour Weekend)	Julia Hut and Hot Springs	
Leader Michael R. Ph 337 5944	Moderate Plus	Transport \$40
Please book with Michael by Sunday 14 October.		

Leaving very early Saturday morning, we drive to Rocky Point Scenic Reserve just west of Jacksons on the West Coast Road. A long tramp up the Taipo River to Julia Hut. Enjoy the hot pools and stay the night. Next day, weather permitting, we follow the Julia Creek to Pope's Pass and return to Julia Hut. Walk out the same way on Monday.

Wednesday 24 October	Time Out Entertainment Riccarton
	<p>Ever wanted the thrill of games at one of these arcades? Here's an opportunity to satisfy your curiosity & pit your finger/eye/brain coordination against a machine!</p> <p>Meet at 7.30pm at Rotheram St Time Out. Coffee afterwards at one of the nearby cafés.</p>

Sunday 28 October	Korowai Torlesse Tussock Park	
Leader Sandra Ph 980 4140	Moderate	Transport \$12
Depart from Yaldhurst Tavern car park at 8.00am		

Enjoy a lovely spring day out with the club. We will park our cars at the bottom corner of Porters Pass. A steady climb up the valley and ridges to the top will be rewarded with a great view when we get there. Return by a different route. Enjoy an ice cream or coffee at Springfield on the way home.

Sunday 4 November	Hinewai Reserve	
Leader Tere Ph 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$25
Depart from Halswell School at 8.00am		

Starting from Hinewai Lodge car park (over the hill from Akaroa) we will go down to Otanerito Bay for lunch, and back up the valley on a different track to return to the car park. A 5-6 hour walk with a good climb after lunch.

Sunday 11 November	Sumner Panorama	
Leader Diane Ph 358 4720	Easy	Transport n/a
Depart from Barnet Park, Redcliffs at 9.00am		

We will be walking uphill to Brownlee Park, then down to Sumner for lunch. Return along the beach past Shag Pile. Bring money for a well-deserved ice cream.

Friday 16 to Sunday 18 November (Show Weekend)	Ahuriri – Dingle Burn	
Leaders Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277	Moderate	Transport \$60
Please book with Bill & Wendy by Sunday 11 Nov.		

Departing Thursday night we drive to the Ahuriri Base Hut. If full we will camp by the cars. Friday we climb to 1448m (600m height gain) and over to the Top Dingle Hut. We will camp further down the Dingle Burn. Saturday we will explore further and return to the campsite. On Sunday the walk back to the cars is approximately 6 hours. Bring own tents, cookers etc (sharing can be arranged). Maps G38 & G39.

Wednesday 21 November 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Heather's.

Sunday 25 November	Scott's Saddle and Pudding Hill	
Leader: Heather Ph 332 6281	Moderate	Transport \$15
Depart from Shell Service station, Main South Rd (just before Templeton), 8am.		

Drive to the Awa Awa Rata reserve at the base of Mt Hutt where the rhododendrons should be in full bloom. We will climb through beech forest and tussock to Scott's saddle then descend to Pudding Hill stream. After lunch we cross the stream a few times then follow the river bank till we meet Adler track which leads us back to the cars. A longish day.

Saturday 01 December**Pot Luck Club Xmas Party**

The Club Xmas Party at Dennis's home in Bishopdale. Drinks start at 5pm, dinner about 6.30pm.

Partners very welcome.

Dress-up theme is "Bright'n'Tight"!

BYO drinks & Pot Luck Dinner to share.

Plus a Secret Santa gift (\$5 - \$10)

If required, please contact Dennis Ph 359 1211 for more information.

Sunday 02 December**Packhorse Hut**

Leader Michael B. Ph 358 3081

Easy

Transport \$5

Depart from Halswell Primary School 9.00am

We drive out to Gebbies Pass and make our way up to the historic hut. A gentle way of walking off your Christmas party food excesses. Return same way and if early we may stop for coffee at The Blue Duck. Hopefully a very easy day out.

Sunday 09 December**Mt Bruce 1630m**

Leader Neal Ph 343 6980

Moderate

Transport \$20

Depart from Yaldhurst Tavern Carpark at 8.00am

Starting from Cora Lyn we climb up through beech forest and tussock to the top of Mt Bruce (1630m). Have fun running down the scree slopes to Broad Stream and then follow a very pleasant bush track back to the cars. Coffee at Springfield on the way home.

Wed. 27 – Mon. 31 December**Doubtful - Amuri Pass - Hope Pass**

Leader Neal Ph 343 6980

Moderate Plus /
Hard

Transport \$30

Please book with Neal by Thursday 20 December.

Starting in the Doubtful Valley, we will head over Amuri Pass and drop down into the Waiheke River. We follow the Waiheke to the junction then turn up the Tutaekuri River. Then over Hope Pass and down the Hope to emerge at Windy Point. There are huts but we will also take tents to allow for more flexibility on long days. There may be some bush-bashing. A real adventure!

Sunday 13 January	Riversdale Stream	
Leader Mike R. Ph 337 5944	Moderate	Transport \$20
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel 7:30am		

Drive to Hawdon Shelter area and explore this scenic route upstream. Return the same way.

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 January	Mt Fyffe	
Leader Tere Ph 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$35
Please book with Tere by Sunday 13 January		

Leave on Saturday for Kaikoura and walk up a 4WD track to the hut (3 hours, 900m). After settling in to the hut we will set off to summit Mt Fyffe (perhaps for sunset). Returning the same way.

Wednesday 23 January	Club Social Night
	Club Summer Picnic at Abberley Cres 6pm
	Welcome in the new tramping year! Catch up with tramping friends after Xmas! Bring a picnic & summer games and join us in the grounds of the hall for a picnic. (If wet we can have our picnic inside.)

Wednesday 30 January at 7.30pm Committee Meeting at Dennis's

Sunday 27 January	Mt Evans	
Leader Dennis Ph 359 1211	Easy	Transport \$12
Depart from St Asaph St meeting place at 8.30am		

Mt Evans is on Banks Peninsula, NE of Mt Herbert. We will drive over Dyers Pass and around the harbour to Purau to park the cars at the high point of the Purau-Port Levy Road. Climb the ridge to the north of the cars to the summit of Mt Evans (703m). Return via Camp Bay with a long walk up the hill to return to the cars.

Saturday 02 & Sunday 03 February	Crow Hut via Rome Ridge or Klondyke Corner	
Leader Michael R. Ph 3375944	Moderate Plus / Moderate	Transport \$30
Please book with Michael by Sunday 27 January		

Approach the Crow Hut from either the Rome Ridge with its spectacular views, or up the gentle and pleasant Crow River. Options will depend on numbers. Please phone Michael with any enquiries. Meeting place and departure time to be arranged.

Sunday 10 February	Lyndon Saddle - Craigieburn	
Leaders Pam & Brian Ph 388 5523	Moderate	Transport \$17
Depart from Yaldhurst Tavern 8.00am		

Drive to the Broken River shelter and from there climb to the Lyndon Saddle. We sidle around to the Craigieburn ski-field for lunch, then walk down the ski-field track back to the Saddle and return to the cars. A nice mix of forest and mountain scree with some great views.


Wednesday 13 February at 7.00pm. Trip Planning Meeting at Bronwyn's
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Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 February	Orari Gorge Base Camp	
Leaders Glenda & Claire	Easy	Transport \$30
Please book by Sunday 10 Feb either by phoning Glenda Ph 942 4293 or by emailing Claire at claire.thornton@cdhb.health.nz .		

Drive to Orari Gorge (15 km from Geraldine) and set up camp on Saturday morning. From here we will take an easy walk in the Orari Gorge Scenic Reserve. Saturday evening we will share a camp style meal, so bring something for the BBQ. Sunday we will break camp and drive to Hall Rd near Geraldine to explore the Kakahu Bush reserve (approx. 2.5 hours). It has fascinating limestone escarpments and stands of native bush. Starting on the Marble Gorge track near an old lime kiln, we will check out the balancing rock and climb to the pinnacles lookout for panoramic views of the Port Hills to the north and Timaru to the south. BYO tent, sleeping mat and cooker. DOC fees \$6 per adult/night. A great chance to try out your camping skills without carrying your gear anywhere!

Sunday 24 February	McLeans Island & Yaldhurst	
Leader Diane Ph 3584720	Easy	Transport n/a
Depart from St Asaph Street meeting place 9.00am		

An easy ramble through pine forest to the Waimakariri riverbank for lunch. Back to the cars, and then we'll stop at Yaldhurst Reserve for a short walk.

Wednesday 20 February	Club Social Night
BOOK by Sunday 10 Feb.	
	<p>A Night at the Movies in a private home cinema at 45 Maryhill Ave, Hoon Hay at 7.30pm. Come and see little gems like the 1950s Milford Track promo film, the building of Lake Daniells Hut and more. \$6 per person, includes supper. Please book with Tere Ph 981 6431 by Sunday Feb 10th.</p>

Wednesday 27 February to Sun 03 March	Cycle the Central Otago Rail Trail
Leader Dennis Ph 359 1211	Transport TBA
Please contact Dennis by Sunday 02 December if you are possibly coming on this trip, <u>whether your commitment is confirmed or not.</u>	

Google "Otago Rail Trail" for more information.

Departing Christchurch on Wednesday to be in Clyde by Wednesday night. Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be on the Rail Trail, with a shuttle bus pickup in Middlemarch to return us to the cars left in Clyde. A night in Clyde and then return to Christchurch on Sunday.

Accommodation will involve two nights in Clyde and two nights on the Rail Trail. Transport, accommodation and other options to be decided.

Sunday 10 March	Mt Cass walkway	
Leader Michael B. Ph 358 3081	Easy	Transport \$15
Depart from Belfast Tavern 8am		

Walk the Mt Cass walkway near Waipara valley. Depending on the day we may also have time to look at Tirimoana, Kate Valley. Bring plenty of water.

Trip Reports

Dry Acheron

We collected just one at the Yaldhurst carpark: an enthusiastic though not a 'morning person' guy named Simon. It was an early start – 7 am – and there was a drizzly fog which continued for some time as we headed towards Rakaia. Our starting point was the Dry Acheron car park on the Lake Coleridge Road. I had my doubts about the 'Dry' terminology as previous experience of the bursting banks of the Dry Swin River made me a doubter. (Another "dry" trip about 3 years ago. Ed) I was proved correct as we criss-crossed the river at about knee-depth for over an hour.

The tramp began as we trotted along the edge of pine trees on the Dry Acheron Station. Crossing a stile, we entered the Big Ben Station for a while before reverting back. We travelled at a good pace and throughout the day kept pretty much to the posted times. We had to walk extremely close to a paddock of steers that seemed to charge us. I found this a bit disconcerting!

After two hours (around 10am) we began the climb of Big Ben, through tussocky scrub – Spaniard, turpentine and matagouri. It was steep all the way but by now the low cloud was breaking up and the mist lifting above us, affording views across to Steepface Hill and eventually as we climbed, views along to Lake Coleridge and Double Hill. We reached the top for a well-deserved lunch and as we ate, the views opened up more, from the snowy Big Ben Range northward to Ben More, and irrigation ponds on the station below. There was one deep-looking lake – the black hole.

It was steep and slippery coming down, but still much easier than the climb with patches of loose muddy scree that were good for an almost-run. Just before the mountain levelled out I slipped, knocking my arm on a rock. The skin grazed and came up into an immediate lump and red bruise, but fortunately I had my polyprop sleeve down (a rarity) and there was no blood, just pain. I used the magic water from my drink bottle and caught up with Bill and Simon.

Easy going from here with just one scramble where the river was fenced. We stopped to give way and skirt around a cow with a wobbly-legged calf, not wanting to upset her. Returned to the car before 4.30pm. A solid and satisfying day out.

Wendy

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

Trip Pics

**Kirwans Hut,
Reefton**



Big Ben, Big Ben Range



Peel Forest Mid-Winter
Xmas Base Camp





Black Hill Hut, Oxford Forest



Vegetable Sheep, Korowai/Torlesse Tussocklands Park





Kaitorete Spit Bike Trip (52km)





Hanmer Base Camp. (Cancelled West Coast trip alternative)





Ryde Falls, Oxford Forest



Historic Warden Hut, Clarence Conservation Park





Mayur Restaurant Social Night



Meeting dates & locations

Our General Meetings are generally held on the 4th Wednesday of every month. As this may vary, please check programme 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.

Trip Gradings

Grade	Description
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.

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

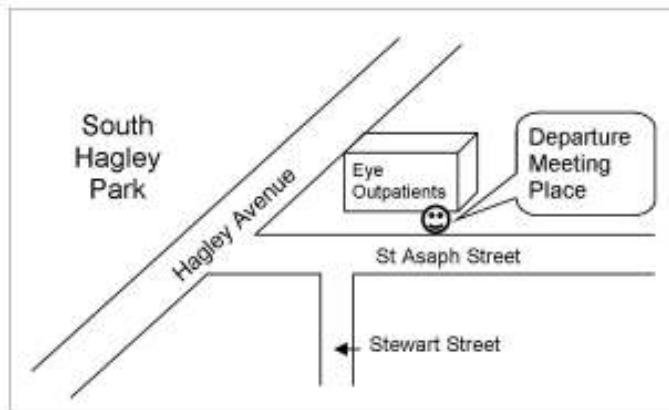
If you are planning to go on an overnight trip, please contact Trip Leader for information about food and equipment requirements.

St Asaph St 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.



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.

Delayed Trip Returns

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

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.