

# Hagley Tramping Club

Published by Hagley Tramping Club

P.O Box 852, Christchurch 8140, NZ

[www.hagleytrampingclub.net.nz](http://www.hagleytrampingclub.net.nz)

Affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.

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## ***FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2018***

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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**

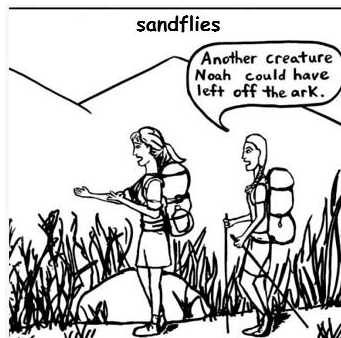
Calendar of Trips & Social Events, Trip Reports & Pictures.

For general information about the club and trips, refer last two pages.

### **Club Email Address**

For general communication: [hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz)

For information about trips, please ring the Trip Leader.



## **Club Committee**

The following club members were elected to the Committee at the AGM.

Chairperson	Tere L	Ph 981 6431
Treasurer	Dianne L	Ph 981 6431
Secretary	Dennis W	Ph 359 1211
Committee	Heather H (Website)	Ph 332 6281
	Dennis W (Newsletter)	Ph 359 1211
	Vesna M	Ph 942 6955
	Sally B	Ph 338 1097
	Pat N	Ph 960 7031
Club Captain	Bill T	Ph 354 2277
New members contact	Sandra F	Ph 027 224 0045

The Club Captain is a technical leadership position available to advise anyone on equipment, trips etc. Please contact Bill if you have tramping enquiry.

(For specific tramps, contact the Trip Leader)

Committee Meetings are not “closed” so any club member is welcome to come along to any of our meetings.

## **From your Chairperson**

Howdy Trampers

I’m writing this on the 1st of February, I can’t believe we’ve used up a whole month of 2018 already! We had a great trip planning meeting last night and filled the program with an eclectic sampling of innovative trips and social events but don’t turn over to the programme yet as I need to let you all know a thing or 2 first.

The AGM comes around again in May so be sure to put it in your diary now to avoid double booking and missing out. We will be requiring a new treasurer, as my wife Dianne who kindly joined the club just so she could fill in for the last few years is no longer able to continue due to other commitments, so if anyone would be a keen volunteer please let the committee know. We will also be looking for someone to step up as Chairperson, I look like having a rather full and stressful year as our house insurance claim has finally been declared over cap and we are now dealing with our insurance company instead of EQC. Anyone out there looking for leadership experience? I will still be available for the committee if required and running the occasional trip.

Now your just about ready to turn to the programme pages but keep an eye out and read each item carefully because we are giving day trip leaders the choice to call for attendees to book beforehand. So don't just bowl up to a trip that requires booking you could have a long and frustrating wait if the leader has cancelled from lack of interest or changed the meeting place or time.

Now go too it and get all those great trips into your diary or on your calendar and I will see you out in the wop wops soon.

Happy Tramping

Tere

## **Trip Reports**

There is great Old Ghost Road report from Sally at the end of the Trip Program. If you have been on a memorable trip which other club members would enjoy reading about, it would be great if you could share the story with a Trip Report.

## **NEW & IMPORTANT!**

### **Day Trip Bookings**

The Committee decided recently to give Trip Leaders an option of requesting a notification from members planning to come on day trips.

This permits the Trip Leader to notify intended trampers if the trip is cancelled (generally due to poor weather) or not to make the early morning trip to the meeting place if no-one has indicated they are coming.

The general rule is that the Trip Leader should be notified of your intent to come at least by the day before the trip departs.

## **ADVANCED TRIP BOOKINGS**

There are two trips which require booking in advance of our normal one week before.

### **Friday 09 – Sunday 11 March Arthurs Pass.**

*I've been holding up this Newsletter for days waiting for confirmation of an Arthurs Pass bach booking from a non-responsive owner. If confirmed, I need to pay one night's deposit. I would like to know asap how many people might come. Can you let me know when you receive this Newsletter if you are intending to come.*

### **Friday 22 – Sunday 24 June Castle Hill Village**

Dennis – Ed

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## ***Calendar of Trips and Social Events***

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<b>Sunday 18 February</b>	
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There is no planned trip for today.

<b>Saturday 24 - Sunday 25 February</b>	<b>Basins Hut</b>
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An easy moderate tramp into Basins Hut up the Avoca river (near Lake Coleridge). There should be time to explore beyond the hut in the afternoon. On Sunday we will tramp out over Gargarus Saddle if we have two cars or via Lake Lillian if we don't.

Leader Heather Ph 322 6281

Easy/Moderate

Transport \$35

Please book in with Heather by Sunday 18th February

<b>Wednesday 28 February at 7.30pm</b>	<b>Club Social Night</b>
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<b>Margaret Mahy Park</b>	
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Arrive at 7:30pm to follow a quiz around the park that allows you to read the plaques, answer the questions and play on the equipment. Most correct answers shouts coffee for the rest, at a venue to be decided on the night.

Organiser Tere Ph Tere Ph 021 1401104 or Ph 981 6431

<b>Sunday 4 March</b>	<b>Mt Lyndon</b>
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Mt Lyndon is adjacent to Lake Lyndon. It is easily accessible from the West Coast Rd with a good climb up the North East slopes. Great views from the top. From the top we can return the same way or down the South East ridge and low saddle behind the lodge and return along the lake to the cars.

*Please phone or txt Sally if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leader Sally Ph 021 127 6419

Moderate

Transport \$20

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am.

**Wednesday 07 March at 7.30 pm**

**Committee Meeting**

Club Committee Meeting at Vesna's in Hornby.

**Friday 09 - Sunday 11 March**

**Arthurs Pass Base Camp**

A bach has been tentatively booked for 8 people this trip. Early bookings essential. (See page 4 for further information)

Drive to Arthurs Pass Friday night for early start Saturday morning for climb to Temple col. However there are many other options which are more or less strenuous depending on what people would like to do. Pot luck tea on Saturday night. Half day trip on Sunday before returning home.

Cost is \$280/two nights to be shared by the group.

Leader Dennis W Ph 021 243 9999

All

Transport \$30

Please book in with Dennis as soon as possible or before 25 Feb.

**Sunday 18 March**

**Mt Bruce 1630m**

Starting from Cora Lynn we climb up through beech forest and tussock to the top of Mt Bruce. On the way down the other side we can have fun running the scree into Broad Stream and back to the cars.

*Please phone or txt Claire if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leaders Claire & Sergey

Moderate-Plus

Transport \$25

Ph 021 076 2500

Depart from Yaldhurst Tavern carpark at 7.30am

**Sunday 25 March**

**Mike Keen Walkway**

Explorer on the Ashley riverbank to the North of Rangiora. Starting from Tulls Road in the east and exploring a range of tracks and stopbanks heading west along the banks including the Mike Keen Walkway, lunch and return hopefully exploring different routes. Coffee in Rangiora.

Expect to walk for 3-4 hours on relatively flat going. Potentially we could cover as much as 20 km.

*Please phone Tere before 9.00pm Saturday if you are intending to join this trip.*

*Call Tere on 021 140 1104 or leave a message on 03 981 6431*

Leader Tere Ph 021 140 1104

Easy

Transport \$5

Depart from Richill St Belfast at 9.30am

**Wednesday 28 March at 7.30pm**

**Club Social Night**

**Abberley Crescent Hall**

Dennis will show an interesting assortment of club trip pictures taken over the 15 years of owning a digital camera. Enjoy past trips and faces old and new. I promise there will be some good laughs too! (Postponed event from November last year)

Supper to follow.

<b>Friday 30 March – Monday 2 April Easter Weekend</b>	<b>Barker Hut Arthurs Pass National Park</b>
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Leaving Friday morning we will drive up to Klondyke Corner and spend the day going up to Carrington Hut. Next day follow the White River up to Barker Hut which is a cost of \$5 payable to CMC.

Sunday head back down the river with option of staying back at Carrington or going down to the Anti-Crow. Out and home on Monday.

Tents may be required due to popularity of this trip on a long weekend.

Leaders Claire & Sergey 021 0762500      Moderate-Hard      Transport \$25

Please book with Claire & Sergey by Sunday 18 March.

<b>Sunday 08 April</b>	<b>Mt Barossa 1364m</b>
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Access from a small car park on Ashburton Gorge Rd just east of Blowing Point Bridge. Poled route 4.06km long is around 3 hours push from 650m to 1364m.

We'll be rewarded with stunning views of the Arrowsmiths, Mt Hutt, Mt Somers, Hakatere conservation park, Lake Heron and a souvenir.

*Please phone or txt Vesna if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leader Vesna Ph 021 277 2422      Moderate      Transport \$25

Depart from Z Station in Templeton at 7.30am

<b>Saturday 14 &amp; Sunday 18 April</b>	<b>Crow Hut</b>
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Leave Christchurch at 8.00am and drive to the shingle road that goes west up the Waimakariri from Klondyke Corner. Tramp up the Waimak and then the Crow River to the Crow Hut. Approx. 4 hrs. Stay the night and home the same way.

Tents an option.

Leaders Claire & Sergey Ph 021 0762500      Easy-moderate      Transport \$30

Please book in with Claire and Sergey by Sunday 08 April



**Wednesday 18 April at 7.30 pm**

**Committee Meeting**

Club Committee Meeting at Sally's in Hillmorton.

**Sunday 22 April**

**Ashburton River MTB Cycle Ride**

Drive to SH1 Bridge in Ashburton or maybe a bit further up river. Cycle to Hakatere at the Ashburton River mouth for lunch and return the same way. About 39km for the round trip. Because the track gets very muddy when wet, the trip will be cancelled if raining on the day or there is more than light rain on the days before. Assuming people bring their own cars with bikes there is no pooling of transport. However, we might be able to do that if someone brings a multiple bike rack.

*Please phone or txt by Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dennis if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leader Dennis Ph 021 243 9999

Cyclists

Transport: See text

Meet outside Cookie Time in Templeton at 8.30am

**Wednesday 25 April**

**Dawn Service and Breakfast**

**ANZAC Day**

Meet at the corner of Armagh St and Rolleston Ave by the bridge to Hagley Park by 6.10am

We will walk down to Cranmer Square for the service 6.30-7.30ish

Then 8.30am back to Claire and Sergey's for a shared BYO breakfast.

Contact Claire 021 0762500 for a list of what might be needed if you can come to breakfast.

*Please phone or txt Claire if you are planning to attend.*

(Note there is no evening Social Event planned for ANZAC Day)

<b>Sunday 29 April</b>	<b>Mt Richardson 1047m</b>
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We will climb up through the beech forest to Mt Richardson, follow the Blowhard track along the ridge and finally complete the circuit by taking the bypass track back to the Glentui picnic area.

*Please phone Heather if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leader Heather Ph 332 6281                      Moderate                      Transport \$15

Depart from Richill St Belfast at 8.30am

<b>Wednesday 02 May at 7.00 pm</b>	<b>Trip Planning Meeting</b>
!Note 7.00pm start time!	
Trip and Social Event planning for the next 3-4 months at Pat's home in Avonhead.	

<b>Saturday 05 - Monday 07 May</b>	<b>Elizabeth Hut</b>
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Saturday early start to drive to Gloriavale Christian Community on the coast. Tramp is up the Haupiri River in West Coast tramping conditions. Sunday plan to tramp over Trent Saddle to the top Trent Hut and back to Elizabeth Hut for a day tramp. Monday back to cars down the Haupiri River, will stop at Haupiri Hot pool. Own cookers and tents will be required. Map BU21

Leader Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277                      Moderate Plus                      Transport \$50

Please book with Bill and Wendy by Sunday 29th April.

<b>Sunday 13 May</b>	<b>French Peak / Little River</b>
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From Okuti Valley Reserve through Farm and climb to French Peak, about 2.5hrs. Spectacular views from the peak. Possible return to Hilltop Tavern for drinks (the track can be walked in either direction) and then back to the cars.

*Please phone or txt Vesna if you are intending to join this trip*

Leader Vesna Ph 021 2772422                      Easy/Moderate                      Transport \$10

Depart from main road outside Halswell School at 8 a.m.

<b>Sunday 20 May</b>	<b>Diamond Harbour</b>
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Easy day trip in the environs of Purau/Diamond Harbour. We will meet up with Pauline in Diamond Harbour.

*Please phone or txt Pauline if you are intending to join this trip. Pauline may be able to advise others who are coming, so car-pooling to Lyttelton can be arranged.*

Leader Pauline 027 363 6302                      Easy                      Transport NA

Depart from Lyttelton on 8.50am ferry to Diamond Harbour.

<b>Wednesday 23 May at 7.30pm</b>	<b>Club Social Night</b>
	<b>Abberley Crescent Hall</b>
	<b>AGM &amp; Tramping Tasmania</b>
<p>Our AGM night. Finances and Chairperson's Reports. General business including some clarification proposals relating to the club governance. Election of committee roles of Chairman, Secretary &amp; Treasurer. (See also Tere's Report on Page 2) Election of Committee.</p> <p>Followed by pics and story of Vesna's recent tramping trips in Tasmania. Really interesting, not to be missed! Supper to follow.</p>	

<b>Sunday 27 May</b>	<b>Banks Peninsula Montgomery Park - Port Levy Saddle</b>
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The plan is to form two groups and leave from either end of the track, meeting half way for lunch (and to swap car keys.)

A beautiful walk above Little River and Port Levy. Exposed and often very windy. Take plenty of water.

*Please phone or txt Sally if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leaders Heather Ph 332 6281 &

Sally Ph 3381 097 or 021 127 6419

Easy-moderate

Transport \$15

Depart from Cashmere Rd opposite PMH at 8.00am

<b>Saturday 02 – Monday 04 June Queen’s Birthday Weekend</b>	
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At the time of publication, there is no planned trip for this weekend.

See website for any update.

<b>Saturday 09 - Sunday 10 June</b>	<b>Cold Stream Hut</b>
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We will drive to the Jollie Brook swing bridge close to Lake Sumner, the tramp up the Jollie Brook to Cold Stream hut. Be prepared for very wet feet. After a night in the hut return the same way.

Leaders Claire & Sergey Ph 021 0762500

Moderate

Transport \$30

Please book in with Claire & Sergey by Sunday 03 June.

<b>Sunday 17 June</b>	<b>Sign of Bellbird to Allandale</b>
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A shorter day walk down into Governors Bay for coffee and around the coastal track to Allandale. Return to Governors Bay then a different track and a steep climb to return to the cars at the Sign of the Bellbird.

*Please phone or txt Dennis if you are intending to join this trip.*

Leader Dennis Ph 021 243 9999      Easy-moderate      Transport: Gold coin  
 Depart from Cashmere Road opposite PMH at 8.30am

<b>Wednesday 20 June at 7.30 pm</b>	<b>Committee Meeting</b>
Club Committee Meeting at Bill & Wendy's in Redwood.	

<b>Friday 22 – Sunday 24 June</b>	<b>Castle Hill Village Base Camp</b>
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Driving up Friday evening, a weekend winter trip staying at Castle Hill Village. Multiple options for day trips from Hogs Back Track to Mt Cloudsley. We are hoping for snow, so bring crampons and ice axes even if they are not needed. Accommodation limited so be in quick to book the weekend.

Approx. \$25-\$27/night depending on numbers.

Leaders Claire & Sergey Ph 021 076 2500      All      Transport \$25  
 Please book in with Claire & Sergey by 04 June

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## *Trip Reports*

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### **Old Ghost Road, West Coast**

9 – 14<sup>th</sup> December

This wonderful track, only 2 years old, presents some difficulties in that the two ends are a great distance apart by road, the actual walk being 85 kms. There are expensive shuttles available and helicopter flights but we decided to walk as two parties, Claire and Sergey from the northern Seddonville end while Glenda, Angeline, Chris and Sally started from the southern Lyall end and this ensured that both parties had transport at the end of their adventure. It worked really well as each party walked at very different speeds so there was no frustration.

Our group of four drove up to Inangahua Landing on the day that Claire and Sergey were setting off from Seddonville. The weather was dubious and they encountered a lot of rain on that first day. We left Lyall next day in rain but most of our first day was a gentle climb through bush and the rain was only occasional. The path follows an old gold mining track and evidence of the workings can be seen here and there. The Murchison and Inangahua earthquakes caused some massive hillside slips but the track has been superbly constructed to cross these safely. 18 kms took us to Lyall Saddle hut. Like all the huts on the trail it was luxuriously appointed with gas cookers and crockery and all possible kitchen utensils ! The composting toilets were all delightfully non smelly !

Day 2 (13 kms ) took us above the bushline and to incredible far reaching panoramic views. We met Claire and Sergey at "Heaven's Door " and enjoyed swapping information. They walked the track in 4 days, camping, and were thoroughly enjoying the beautiful and varied scenery. The track is also built for mountain bikers but we all agreed the narrow path with precipitous drops was far more enjoyable on foot ! Ghost Lake hut offered lovely views of the little lake nestled in its embracing mountain slopes. We watched the mountain bikers setting off next morning, crossing a stretch of boardwalk before disappearing round a corner and into the hills.

Day 3 ( 12 kms ), like the morning before, threatened rain with low sweeping clouds, but on both days the sun soon broke through to another lovely day , not

too hot, perfect tramping weather. The trail today took us down then up to the magnificent Skyline Ridge and the cleverly planned Skyline Steps, built to cope with a sudden big drop at the far end of the ridge where there was no other possible route down. 302 steps ! Poor mountain bikers, especially those coming up, having to carry their machines ! Stern Valley hut was set in a grassy valley beside the Stern River and we saw some Blue Duck ( Whio ) flying past. Weka are to be seen frequently and they are very tolerant of people. One tried to pinch my sandwich at our lunch stop next day at Goat Creek hut !!

Day 4 was 25 kms to Specimen Point hut. The early part of today's walk took us past two beautiful lakes, Cheerful and Grim !, and across the fascinating Boneyard, an area of decaying hillsides scattered with huge boulders and whitened rocks. Further on we heard machinery and came across Stacky , digging out soil and small rocks for track maintenance. We also watched a helicopter flying back and forth bringing in materials for a bridge being built over a tiny stream ( a trickle for us ) that no doubt becomes a raging torrent in times of heavy rain and melting snow. One unusual feature of the track was where it crossed the wide South Mokihinui River and we went through a door half way across the bridge ! This is designed to keep possums from crossing the river as those on one side have learned to eat the rare giant snails only found in this area while those on the far side are as yet ignorant of this food item. Specimen Point hut offered wonderful views of the Mokihinui River but they had to be observed from inside the hut as the sandflies outside were horrendous ! We arrived in rain ( after a lovely sunny day ) but next morning all was sunshine and warmth again, a gorgeous day.

The last 17 kms took us along a track high above the river gorge. Wonderful views ! The bush was lovely and varied and enhanced by splashes of brilliant red where the Southern Rata was in full bloom.

And, sadly, we finally walked out from the Old Ghost Road, back into normal life ! We rewarded ourselves with a drink in the delightful Rough and Tumble lodge, recalling the varied days of fabulous scenery, the good company of our fellow walkers and bikers and some hilarious evening games of Quick Scrabble

and Hearts ( or Black Maria ). And then into our waiting car for the long drive back to Christchurch. Thank you Chris for your safe driving.

This is a marvellous walk. I strongly recommend it ( as would Vesna and my fellow trampers ) and I will happily do it again should anyone else want to give it a go.

Sally B



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## ***Meeting dates & locations***

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Our general meetings are generally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Edgeware Rd after it crosses Springfield Rd.

## ***Trip Gradings***

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	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***

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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	Sunglasses	
Sunscreen	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***

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

### ***About our trips***

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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***

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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 027 224 0045; Dennis 03 359 1211; Tere 021 140 1104

### ***Club Membership***

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Our annual membership subscription is \$30 single or \$35 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.

Membership Forms are available as a download form at the bottom of our website Home page. <http://www.hagleytrampingclub.net.nz/>