

Hagley Tramping Club

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www.hagleytrampingclub.net.nz

Affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ Inc.



***JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER 2023***

Welcome to the **Hagley Tramping Club** Newsletter & Trip Program

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.



Club trampers taking a break on the Paparoa Track. (Pic Chris B)

See "Trip Reports" (end of the Trip Program) for a great write-up on this trip.

Newsletter Contents

Calendar of Trips & Social Events, Trip Reports

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

Club Email Address

For general communication: contact@hagleytrampingclub.net.nz

For information about trips, please ring the Trip Leader.

Club Committee

Chairperson	Pat N	Ph 021 167 9338
Treasurer	Claire T	Ph 021 076 2500
Secretary	Carol B	Ph 021 2222 054
Club Captain	Bill T	Ph 354 2277
Committee	Heather H (Website)	Ph 021 079 7101
	Dennis W (Newsletter)	Ph 021 243 9999
	Tere L	Ph 021 140 1104 or 981 6431
	Sally B	Ph 338 1097
	Bronwyn M	Ph 022 506 2442
New members contact	Sally B	Ph 338 1097

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 & Trip Planning Meetings are not “closed.” Any club member is welcome to come along to our meetings.

Bookings for DAY Trips

For day trips, please book at least the Friday before the Sunday of the trip.

If the weather is unsuitable for Sunday, the trip may be changed to Saturday.

Bookings for OVERNIGHT Trips

As a rule, the latest date for booking is the Sunday of the weekend before the trip unless otherwise stated in the booking information. However, there is always quite a bit of organisation required for weekend trips and it is preferable for the Trip Leader that bookings are made earlier than the Sunday prior.

General Trip & Membership Information

See last two pages of this Newsletter.

Shared Transport Costs

Due to the substantial increase in fuel costs, we have had to increase the cost for passengers travelling in shared cars.

There is also a cost adjustment applied if the trip involves a car shuttle.

The driver has the discretion to reduce or increase the cost. This would happen if the trip was to a changed destination with less (or more) travelling time OR may reduce if the driver has a full car.

Highlight of this Newsletter

Read Stuart's Report on the Paparoa Track – thanks Stuart.

(At the end of the Trip Program)



Sunset supper at Pororari Hut, Paparoa Track. Pic Bronwyn

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Sunday 18 June	Ryde Falls Oxford Forest
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Join me for a walk through pretty forest. The falls are surprisingly impressive falling in five steps, three of which are visible from the bottom.

Please book with Carol by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Carol B Ph 021 222 2054

Easy

Transport \$20

Depart from Richill St Belfast at 8.30am

Sunday 25 June	Diamond Harbour Loop
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Trip will traverse Purau, Diamond Harbour, Church Bay and Charteris Bay with return to the ferry on the coastal track. I don't know how long it might take as never done it before. Meet at the Lyttelton ferry terminal.

Please book with Vesna by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Vesna 021 277 2422

Moderate

Transport NA

Depart from Lyttelton on the 7.50am ferry to Diamond Harbour

Wednesday 28 June 7.30pm	Club Social Night Film night at Sally's
Enjoy a film recommended by Sally followed by supper.	
Please book with Sally by Monday 26 th .	

Sunday 02 July	Hogs Back Loop
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Hogs Back loop from Castle Hill Village and return via Hogs Back Ridge

Please book with Vesna by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Vesna 021 277 2422

Moderate

Transport \$20

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30am.

Wednesday 05 July at 7.30pm

Committee Meeting

Committee Meeting at Carol's in Glenharrow Ave.

Sunday 09 July

Rabbit Hill

Drive to Starvation Gully close to Lake Lyndon. Climb to Trig M and on to Rabbit Hill. Then down to the road beside the lake. Car shuttle may be needed.

Please book with Sally by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Sally B 338 1097 or 021 127 6419

Moderate

Transport \$15

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am.

Friday 14 – Sunday 16 July
Matariki Weekend

Mid-Winter Xmas Base Camp
Lake Brunner

We have hired an Off-grid Batch at Mitchells on the side of lake Brunner for Friday and Saturday night.

The Batch has 3 bedrooms, sleeping 8 but bring a mat as there is room on the floor.

Shared Dinner one night with the option to go to the 'Local' for a meal on the second night. There is limited power so bring a good torch and a good game.

Bring a Secret Santa up to the value of \$10.

Possible tramps include Mt Te Kinga and/or Mt French depending on weather.

Dress-up theme: West Coast Pioneers. (Gold/coal miners, sawmillers...& more!)

Accommodation is \$15/person/night.

Leader Claire T Ph 021 076 2500

All grades

Transport \$45

Please book with Claire by Sunday 02 July.

Sunday 23 July	Tiromoana Bush Walkway
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This easy walk begins about 8km along Mt Cass Road from the turn-off at Waipara Junction. It is a loop track which takes around 4 hours.

A good chance to see Pegasus Bay and Banks Peninsula from a different perspective. We will include the beach track, coastal lookout and Mt Ella (346m).

Please book with Wendy by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Wendy T Ph 3542277 or 022 398 5214 Easy Transport \$15

Depart from Richill St Belfast at 8.30am.

Wednesday 26 July 7.30pm	Club Social Night Abberley Park Hall
Borneo & Singapore. Dennis & Wendy have recently returned from this trip and will show & talk about their experiences. Followed by supper.	

Saturday 29 to Sunday 30 July	Nina Hut, Lewis Pass
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A short 3 to 3.5 hours tramp in Lewis Pass, all in the beech forest, rivers are all bridged but a tendency to be a bit muddy on the track. If we make good time to the hut an explore towards Devils Den Biv in the afternoon is a possibility.

A cosy standard Hut (1 ticket required) with a good stove.

Leader Tere L Ph 021 140 1104 or 981 6431 Easy-moderate Transport \$30

Please book with Tere by Sunday 23 July.

Sunday 06 August	Annavale Track/Benmore Hut
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Not far from Springfield is the 13 Mile Bush track , heading through farmland and onto the Annvale Track. This takes you up to the Russell Range giving us wonderful views of the surrounding mountains.

Please book with Bronwyn by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Bronwyn M Ph 022 506 2442	Easy- Moderate	Transport \$15
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Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30am.

Sunday 13 August	Anti Crow Hut Day Trip
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We will drive to the Bealey Bridge and park at the southern end. The track goes from there up the true right of the Waimakariri River and across Turkey Flat to the Anti Crow Hut for lunch.

About 6hr returning the same way.

Please book with Dennis by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Dennis W Ph 021 243 9999	Easy	Transport \$25
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Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am.

Saturday 19 - Sunday 20 August	Quail Island Eco Restoration
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This weekend will either be an overnight at the Otamahua Hut or a working day trip. (As at the time of publication hut bookings had not opened for August)

We will be working for the Ecological Restoration Trust planting or whatever is required to support their work.

Detail will be emailed to All Members as this plan firms up.

Leader Sally B 338 1097 or 021 127 6419	NA	Transport TBA
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Please book with Sally – date to be advised.

Wednesday 23 August 7.00 pm

**Club Social Night
Mexico Restaurant**

Dinner at the Mexico Restaurant 203 Manchester St.

<https://www.mexico.net.nz/christchurch>

Please book with Carol B Ph 021 222 2054 by Sunday 20 August.

Sunday 27 August

Peak Hill, Lake Coleridge

A short climb near Lake Coleridge for spectacular 360 views of the river and surrounding snow-capped mountains. The climb is 600m but the distance is short so a good tramp to try out moderate terrain. Return options are to drop down the other side and traverse around the hill (off track) or return the same way (the party may split).

Please book with Heather by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Heather H 021 079 7101 or 332 6281 Moderate Transport \$25

Depart from Z service station, Main South Rd, Templeton at 8.30am

Sunday 03 September

Mt Guy, Hakatere

Starting from Lake Clearwater we will hike up to the summit of Mt Guy (1319m) before returning down the long spur.

Please book with Carol by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Carol B Ph 021 222 2054 Moderate Transport \$30

Depart from Z service station, Main South Rd, Templeton at 8.00am

Wednesday 06 September at 7.30pm

Committee Meeting

Committee Meeting at Pat's in Avonhead Rd.

Sunday 10 September	Akaroa Harbour
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Drive to Akaroa Childrens Bay Walkway to walk the round trip & marvel at the ingenious sculptures. This will take us all morning and lunchtime. On the return home stop & hike the historic Onawe Peninsula.

Please book with Dennis by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Dennis W Ph 021 243 9999 Easy Transport \$20

Depart from outside Halswell School on the Akaroa Rd at 8.30am.

Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 September	Hawdon Hut APNP
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A short 3 hour tramp in Arthurs Pass National Park all in the river bed so no climbing but some river crossing required.

If we make good time to the hut an explore up Twin Falls creek in the afternoon. Return the same route out on Sunday.

A newish serviced Hut (3 tickets required) hut very comfortable for winter tramping.

Leader Tere L Ph 021 140 1104 or 981 6431 Easy Transport \$30
 Moderate

Please book with Tere by Sunday 10 September if you intend to join this trip.

Sunday 24 September	
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No planned trip for this date.

Wednesday 27 September 7.30pm	Club Social Night Abberley Park Hall
Portugal and Morocco. Phil will show and talk about his recent trip to these exotic countries. Followed by supper.	

Saturday 30 – Monday 02 October	Yeats Ridge Hut, West Coast
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This hut is up the Toaroha River inland from Hokitika. It is about 7hrs tramp to this 4 bunk hut. If the weather permits, we will check out Crystal Biv and return to Cedar Flats on Sunday. Walk out and drive home Monday. Bring own tents, cookers etc. Map BV19

Please book with Bill if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Bill T Ph 354 2277

Hard

Transport \$70

Please book with Bill by Sunday 24 September

Sunday 08 October	Packhorse Hut
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Come and join me on a nice walk up to the Packhorse Hut and back down the same way.

Please book with Carol by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Carol B Ph 021 222 2054

Easy

Transport \$10

Depart from outside Halswell School on the Akaroa Rd at 8.30am

Wednesday 11 October at 7.00pm	Trip Planning
Trip Planning Meeting at Heathers' in Halswell.	

Saturday 14 -Sunday 15 October	Hope Kiwi Lodge/St Jacobs Hut
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On this trip we have a choice of hut in which to stay. Hope Kiwi is a large 20 bunk hut (\$25/person) and St Jacobs is 6 bunks (\$10/person). Travel is up the Hope River Valley with a possible side trip to Morris Tarn and maybe the ruins of Museum Hut (private) which was burnt down earlier this year.

Leader Pat N Ph 021 167 9338

Moderate

Transport \$30

Please book with Pat by Sunday 08 October if you intend to join this trip.

Saturday 21 – Monday 23 October	(Labour Weekend)
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No planned trip for this weekend.

Sunday 29 October	The Bens Traverse
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Ben More (1655m) and Big Ben (1416m).

A through ridge trip from the Lyndon Road to Lake Coleridge Rd. Requires car shuttle. A good weather only trip.

Please book with Vesna by Friday if you intend to join this trip.

Leader Vesna 021 277 2422

Moderate Plus

Transport \$20

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.00am.

TRIP REPORT

Paparoa Track

The Paparoa Track is the newest Great Walk, a purpose-built, shared-use hiking and mountain biking track within the Paparoa National Park on the West Coast of the South Island. The track crosses the Paparoa Range, taking you through alpine tops, limestone karst landscapes and thriving rainforests. The hiking distance (one-way) is 55.1km between Pororari River car park (Punakaiki) in the north and Smoke-ho carpark in the southeast, however we decided to exit using the Croesus Track which ejects you on the coast at Barrytown where we had left a vehicle. Note that the new 2 x 20 bunk huts used to complete the walk were both full and bookings for the 2023/24 season open at 9.30 am on 27 April 2023.

A two car HTC expeditionary force headed west lunchtime Wednesday 22nd March in glorious sunshine and met up at the Punakaiki blowholes at Dolomite Pt. The new 'Experience Centre' is still being built and some of the walkway is currently closed off, but it's still an incredible location to view the sculptured Oligocene-age limestone landscape of pancake-shaped rock formations (a result

of 'stylobedding'), blowholes and surge pools. Next stop was the Punakaiki Rocks Hotel which had a good selection of high carb pub fare and cold beverages to wash it down with. This was also staggering distance back to the accommodation and beach sunset. We stayed at a mix of the Beach camp huts and hostel. The huts were pretty basic and relied on shared facilities, and unless you were after the privacy, the hostel was a great option.

We met up with Claire and Sergey the following morning which brought the party number up to 10 and completed the Barrytown car shuffle before commencing the walk at Punakaiki around 9.30. Under a near cloudless sky, we headed up the Pororari River Valley surrounded by luxuriant punga and nikau coastal forest framed by dramatic limestone cliffs and caves. You soon meet the entrance that brings in the mountain bikes and a flowing ascent took us up to the junction with the Inland Pack Track (across the swing bridge – do not follow!). Overall, there were few enough of the mountain bikers to make them only a very occasional distraction. Most ceded to the walkers (as instructed) and were seemingly thankful for a brief stop and a chat. There was increasing amount of beech and rata as we went higher up, and fantails, robins and tomtits were our constant companions - no doubt more interested in what we kicked up rather than what we had to say.

The first day is 16 km, the final 5 km is steady climb through a series of switchbacks up to the Pororari Hut which we arrived at mid-afternoon. This is a short detour off the main track, but at 545m is located on the spur of a ridgeline and has breathtaking 180-degree views. The hut has sinks and gas with 3 x 2 hobs which meant a never-ending supply of tea and it was warm enough to lounge outside on the balcony to grapple with Sally's cryptic crosswords. There were two sleeping dorms, one with two platforms and another with 2 x 4 single bunks. The sun-setting over Punakaiki sensationally lit up the ridgeline we would be following the following day.

We were up and out close to sun-up, keen to make the most of the views before we were enveloped by the moist weather that was forecast and we could see rolling towards us. Coal is layered between brown rock alongside the zigzagging track that leads to the Waterfall Creek Bridge which gives a perfect view of a sparkling-like-diamonds waterfall dropping down a bush-strewn rock face. The

track switchbacks fairly steeply through lush podocarp forest, but with views over an argillite basin and into the head of Pike River. A few of the more precipitous drop offs have been fenced off, presumably with over-zealous bikers in mind.

The track ducks in and out of the bush before emerging to run right along the edge of a near-vertical cliff face, providing amazing views over the Pororari headwaters and out to the Tasman, although by this time it was starting to get murky and soon after it was time for waterproofs. The track dips down and weaves through a stunted goblin forest before emerging again into open tussock. Just before the hut there was a turnoff west down the Moonlight Valley to Anderson Flats which has vehicle access. It's 19.1 km between huts and we arrived at the Moonlight Tops Hut early enough in the afternoon for lunch. The hut is located on a spur at 1020m the views from which is dominated by the magnificent escarpment to the north which we got to see around sunset when the clouds were good enough to clear. The hut was identical in layout to the first hut and was well stocked with wood and coal to dry wet clothes and warm the bones. There was more than adequate table space for an afternoon snack-fest and Claire's card games. There was even a bit of phone signal at certain sweet spots.

We were out at first light and the track undulates along the ridgeline, switching between both sides giving uninterrupted views alternately out to the Tasman and inland back over the Grey Valley - or at least it would have done if we weren't in the clouds! Although exposed, as you'd expect with a great walk, the track is well maintained and we never felt especially vulnerable. Mind you, it could have been trickier if it was colder or especially windy.

After walking approximately an hour and a half we reached the intersection with the Croesus Track, originally constructed between 1881 and 1899 to allow access to gold mines associated with quartz veins in the upper Blackball Creek area. The Paparoa Track continues to follow this route south to Smoke-ho, however we headed west down to the coast which is a back-country trail.

First of all there was a climb up the scree covered flank of Mt Ryall (1220 m). Orange directional poles provided the necessary guidance, but visibility wasn't great, and it was important to stick together at this point. Rocks gave way to a

ruted tussock path and after dropping a hundred or so metres we rested up at the bush line in a transcendent moss-covered beech forest. The track continued on an undulating ridgeline and was pretty gnarly in places. Wet roots and rocks provided any number of slide and trip hazards (as we all found out), and thick grass and felled trees made the track unclear in places, although the orange triangle markers were usually obvious. In some places the ridged narrowed to a couple of metres and provided views of the forested drop-offs either side.

From approx. 700 m elevation the Croesus follows the original benched track which made life a lot easier, and a large slip was the only significant obstacle from which only Sally's leg (and pride) was only casualty. After a brief lunch we made it out around 1.30 just opposite the Barrytown pub, and by this time the rain had largely stopped. Sadly, the pub wasn't open until 4 so using the car shuffle we made it back to our accommodation and well-earned showers in Punakaiki. The last night a Phil and I tried out accommodation a couple of km up the road at the Treehouse which had all amenities you could ask for, whilst Sally and Chris had a night in the Stargazer – it's probably best you ask them about that! We all met up again for the obligatory celebratory slap-up dinner in the pub and headed out early the next morning bathed in more of that glorious sunshine.

Overall, this is a great tramping experience, especially to do as group. There are no significant navigational issues which means folks can more often or not go at their own pace and enjoy the breath-taking scenery. As hut beds are booked (albeit far in advance) there's no pressure to get there and no need for tents. There was also a lot of quality time to be had with your fellow trampers – always a pleasure!

Stuart M

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 Park Hall is the venue for most of our general meetings.

Trip Gradings

	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-HARD	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	Sunglasses	
Sunscreen	Sun hat	

*Due to changeable and often unpredictable nature of the weather in New Zealand, 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.

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.

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: Bill 354 2277, Dennis 021 243 9999; Tere 981 6431

Club Membership

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/>