

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.

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2012

Chairperson	Dennis W	Ph 359 1211
Club Captain	Mike R	Ph 337 5944
Secretary	Rose C	Ph 332 6005
Treasurer	Heather M	Ph 322 5030
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.

Subscription Fees

Subscriptions for 2012-2013 were due on 1 April.

Please renew your membership promptly if you have not already done so. (Reminder enclosed to those affected)

From Your Committee

AGM

The AGM was held on Wednesday 23 May.

Your new committee is: Dennis W (Chairperson), Heather M (Treasurer), Rose C (Secretary), Mike R (Club Captain), Sandra F, Claire T & Bronwyn M.

A Special Vote of thanks and presentation of flowers was made to Wendy T, retiring from the Committee after 10 years, 5 of those as Secretary. Wendy has made a big contribution to running the club and is fortunately only retiring from the Committee not the Club.

Kathy K was also thanked, retiring from the Committee after 4 years.

In the Chairperson's report, Dennis emphasised how important it was we gain new members. This is the main focus for the Committee this year. All members can help by publicising the club to friends, family and colleagues and bringing them out on trips.



Distribution of Member Information

To enable ease of communication, the committee is planning to distribute members names, ph nos and emails (but not addresses) to current Trip Leaders. If you do not wish to have your personal details made available to Trip Leaders, please contact Sandra F (980 4140) to have your name removed from this distribution.



Track Closures!?

On the weekend of June 16-17, the club did a trip into Magdalen Hut in the Lewis Pass. (See Trip Reports) Tree fall from snow damage was extensive and so bad that the track became virtually unpassable and we took the river option to get to the hut. As the snow was widespread across Canterbury we think that other forest tracks will be similarly affected, although there has been no information forth coming from DOC to this effect. Trip Leaders will as much as possible be checking with DOC on track conditions prior to leading trips and it is very likely some trips in this newsletter will have to be replaced with an alternative option.

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Sunday 24 June	Mt Bradley	
Leader Mike R. Ph 337 5944	Moderate	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 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	Easy	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 phone 332 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.

Sunday 15 July	Purau Waterfall	
Leaders Brian & Pam Ph 388 5523	Easy	Transport \$12
Depart from St Asaph St meeting place at 9.00am		

Pleasant climb up the tree-lined Purau Stream to the highest waterfall on Banks Peninsula. Lunch near a stand of totara. Then climb up to the ridge in the direction of the Monument and round the head of the valley and back to the cars on different tracks.

Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 July	Kirwans Hut, Reefton	
Leader Tere Ph 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$55
Please book with Tere by Sunday 15 July		

Kirwans Hut is a 5-6 hour climb on a well graded track, but worth it for the fabulous view (see Mt Cook on a good day!), historic mine site and pack horse track. Early departure Saturday morning for the 3 hr drive to the start of the track a few kms north of Reefton.

<p>Wednesday 25 July 7.30pm Abberley Hall</p> 	<p>Tramping & Plant Collecting in the mountains of Fiji</p> <p>Presenter: Allan Fife, NZ's leading authority on mosses.</p> <p>Allan has been on botanical expeditions around the world but thought this one would be of particular interest to us. We are very fortunate to have a speaker of his quality so do come along for this very interesting and unique night.</p>
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Sunday 29 July	Ryde Falls, Oxford Forest	
Leaders Dianna & Claire Ph 339 0992	Easy	Transport \$12
Depart from Belfast Tavern car park at 8.30am		

Join us for a walk through pretty forest. Parts of the track could be muddy and possibly frosty. The falls are surprisingly impressive, a series of five steps of which three are visible from the bottom. Return to cars via same route.

Warm clothes essential.

Saturday 04 & Sunday 05 August	Black Hill Hut, Oxford Forest	
Leader Dennis W 359 1211	Moderate	Transport \$25
Please book with Dennis by Sunday 29 July		

Early departure Saturday morning we will drive over to Lees Valley to the start of the 4WD track which goes up the Townshend River to the old Townshend Hut site. From there a forest track climbs steadily to above the bushline to Black Hill Hut, six bunks. Return the same way.

Sunday 12 August	Rabbit Hill 1198m	
Leaders Brian & Pam Ph 388 5523	Moderate	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am		

We drive to just over Porters Pass to the track which takes us onto the south east long ridge trip to Rabbit Hill. Various options for return to the cars depending the weather, ground conditions and the group.

Wednesday 15 August 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Dennis's

Sunday 19 August	Vegetable Sheep	
Leader Dennis W 359 1211	Moderate	Transport \$12
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel at 8.00am		

Vegetable Sheep – a species unique to the Craigieburn & Torlesse Ranges. Found only in small areas where the climate suits them. An easy walk for about 1.5hrs then a hard climb up the edge of a shingle slide. The vegetable sheep are near the top of the ridge. Weather permitting we will take a round trip to return to the cars, otherwise return the same route.

Wednesday 22 August 7.00pm	Mayur Indian Restaurant
	<p>A great family run Indian Restaurant at 105 Riccarton Rd, between Rotheram St and Straven Road. Join us for a social night of good company and food.</p> <p>Please book with Sandra 980 4140 by Sunday 19 August</p>

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 August	Mt Brown Hut	
Leaders Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277	Moderate Plus	Transport \$55
Please book with Bill & Wendy by Sunday 19 August		

Map J33. Mt Brown Hut is at an altitude of 1120m behind Lake Kaniere, Hokitika. This hut has been rebuilt and maintained by the Mt Brown Community Project Team from Hokitika. The hut has four bunks and there are stunning views of the Alps and Lake Kaniere. We will take tents and thermal rests plus cookers.

Tramp is 3-4 hours. There will be a \$5 charge to cover heating.

Saturday 01 September	Pinchgut Hut Day Trip	
Leader Sandra F Ph 980 4140	Moderate	Transport \$15
Depart from Belfast Tavern car park at 8.00am		



Note this trip is on Saturday. (Sunday is Fathers Day)

We will drive to Fox Creek, leave the cars and cross the Okuku River to follow the track to the Pinchgut Hut. Return the same way unless it's a lovely day then bring along a change of clothes and we follow the Whare Stream back to the main track.

Saturday 08 & Sunday 09 September	Otehake River Hot Pools	
Leader Tere L Ph 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$35
Please book with Tere by Sunday 01 September		

We drive to Aickens 10 minutes west of Otira where we leave the cars. The Otehake Hot Pools are a 5-6hr tramp up the Taramakau and around Lake Kaurapataka with river crossings of the Otira and the Otehake. No hut so tent required and of course togs & towel. Return the same way.

Sunday 16 September	Dry Acheron Track	
Leaders Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277	Moderate Plus	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.00am		

The track starts off the Lake Coleridge Road. Tramp along the Dry Acheron and climb Big Ben 1416 metres. Bring ice axe and crampons which may be required depending on the conditions.

Sunday 23 September	Mt Lyndon 1489m	
Leader Heather M Ph 332 6281	Moderate	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30am		

Starting from the roadside shelter on the shores of Lake Lyndon we climb 650m up an open spur to the top of Mt Lyndon (1489m). We drop down a gentle spur to the lodge at the far end of the lake then walk along the lakeshore back to the cars. Ice axe and crampons could be required depending on snow conditions – contact Heather.

Wednesday 26 September 7.30pm Adventures in Spain & Portugal



Abberley Crescent Hall

Bronwyn & partner Steve will have just returned from 6 weeks in Spain & Portugal and will entertain us with their travelling adventures.

A really interesting night assured!



Daylight savings begins Sunday 30 Sept. Clocks go forward 1 hour.

Sunday 30 September	Kaitorete Spit Bike Ride	
Leader Dennis W Ph 359 1211	All	Transport NA
Depart from Tai Tapu School at 8.30am		

We drive to the Birdlings Flat Rd and turn off to the spit, stopping where the sealed road ends. Bike to the end of the spit where Lake Ellesmere has been opened to the sea and return. Very exposed route, we may change to the Rail Trail if the day turns out to be too windy.

Wednesday 03 October at 7.00pm. Trip Planning Meeting at Dennis's

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 October	Lake Daniels Weekender	
Leaders Claire & Sandra Ph 980 4140	Easy	Transport \$40
Please book with Sandra by Sunday 30 September		

Come along for an easy weekender and if conditions are nice we can pitch our tents or otherwise stay in the hut. Transport cost includes the cost of parking cars at the Lewis Pass motels for safe keeping. Return the same way.

Sunday 14 October	The Gap	
Leader Mike R Ph 337 5944	Hard	Transport \$12
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 7.00am		

Starting from the Kowai River at the bottom of Porters Pass, a classic climb to a unique feature in the Torlesse Range. Once climbed never forgotten. Ice axe and crampons could be required. Please ring Mike to confirm.

Wednesday 17 October 7.30pm. Committee Meeting at Claire's

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

Leaving very early Saturday morning, 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 follow the Julia Creek to Popes Pass and return to Julia Hut. Walk out the same way on Monday.

<p>Wednesday 24 October</p> 	<p>Time Out Entertainment Riccarton</p> <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 cafes.</p>
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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 to 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	
Leaders Tere & Dennis Ph 359 1211	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 walk with a good climb after lunch.

Trip Reports

Mt Barron

Mike R. (leader), Claire, Bill, Wendy, Steiner, Agnete, Bronwyn

We began on the roadside near Otira where the track sign says 'Mt Barron 3 hours'. Not a track for those who like to warm up slowly –it goes straight up the ridge. Wendy entertained us with Irish jokes in honour of it being St Patrick's Day, while Bill improved the track with his secateurs. This was obviously not a track that is used much and after an hour of scrambling and pulling ourselves straight up the rugged ridge, we had doubts about the '3-hour' summit! Once above the bush line we stopped for lunch. We'd gained a lot of height but the road was rather frustratingly still in view.

Setting off again, we crossed some obvious fault lines and headed up and around the shoulder of the hill until we were looking down on a chain of little tarns. We descended and set up our tents down there by about 2.30pm and after a snack were ready to head off to the summit. Great sharp-edged rock slabs the size of tables gave way to smaller rocks. It was dramatic and almost desolate landscape, although if you looked closely you could see tiny hardy plants growing up amongst the stones. Bill made it to the top of Mt Barron but the rest of us turned back about 200 metres away as the cloud was descending rapidly. Then it was all about 'rock-running' rather than scree-running down, as the stones were many different sizes and sometimes it was more like surfing a mini avalanche. The campsite beside the tarns was sheltered from the wind and was well-furnished with rocks for sitting on. We had a surprise guest in the form of a monstrous plump and hairy spider which we admired in Claire's cup, but we only saw one lonely kea flying over.

Next morning we awoke to dense cloud. Every bit of tussock and rocky outcrop looked much like another in the murk. This prompted some discussion as to exactly which way we should head out. Mike was pretty confident though, and every now and then there would appear a little clearer 'window' in the cloud. We got it right – suddenly the track at the edge of the bush line appeared, straight ahead. Descending the steep track required almost as much energy as climbing up with the now wet, slippery vegetation and mud. Despite the soft drizzle we were stripping off layers to keep cool. Mike's relatives who run Otira Backpackers had not only looked after the vehicles for us, but kindly lent us their garage for changing out of our wet clothes. Then it was off to the café at Arthur's Pass for a late lunch and hot drinks. Thanks, Mike, for a great weekend adventure! Bronwyn

Are you prepared? NO? Read on to find out!

Mike, Dianna and I set out from Hawdon Shelter in cool overcast conditions on a day trip to the East Hawdon Biv, theoretically we were carrying only what we would normally carry for a day and then planned to stay the night and see how well we coped. The walk went well, we avoided crossing the Hawdon by sticking

to the true left all the way to the East Branch which turned out to be a good easy route and we made good time reaching the junction in about an hour. The East Hawdon route was not difficult to find and after 2 hours enjoying this beautiful valley and it's charming little bush clad gorge, lunch was taken at the near new and well kept 2 bunk shelter. After lunch we returned down the valley. About half way down we saw what appeared to be a huge cloud of smoke hanging in the valley ahead of us but were unable to determine its cause immediately. A short time later while passing across the bottom of a large scree filled gully we found the rocks splashed with water for 10 metres or more from the river, deep scars in the rocks and a boulder the size of a car nestled in the bushes on the far side of the river. Needless to say we did not sit around waiting for any more to come down but proceeded downstream where soon after we met up with Sergey who had driven up after work to join us for the night out. By the time we reached the junction of the Hawdon again, the afternoon was waning so a campsite was selected nestled amongst the trees in a dry grassy hollow and preparations were made. I had brought a large fly sheet so this was slung between trees supported by walking poles as a shelter, a large pile of wood was collected and Dianna lit the fire with her piece of rubber inner tube. All the food was pooled and meals planned and the fearless 4 settled down for a night under the stars. With the thermometer reading a balmy 11 degrees and a cool Nor' west breeze blowing we turned off the MP3 player and went to bed but we could not get warm all night. The next morning camp was struck and a quick hour brought us back to the car and on to Springfield for a well earned all day breakfast and a recap of what had been learned.

CONSIDER CARRYING FULL OVERNIGHT GEAR ON ALL BACK COUNTRY TRIPS: At the very least you will get fitter and if it all goes wrong you at least will be comfortable.

SHELTER: Make your shelter fully enclosed to trap body heat and exclude the wind even with all my clothing and wet weather gear on I was shivering in the wind. Make it small enough so everyone is huddled, the only bit of me that was warm at any stage was the bit touching my neighbour.

GROUND INSULATION: Get anything you can between you and the ground, it just sucks heat out of you like a sponge. Next time I will try sleeping on my empty pack but maybe grass or leafy branches might work.

FIRE: Was great while you were next to it but 2 metres away in the shelter it gave no warmth except to those who got up and fed it in the night. If you are carrying fire lighting gear put it in a little billy with some tea bags or cuppa soup. A hot drink can make a huge difference to feelings of well being.

SURVIVAL BAGS: I started by slipping into my pack liner, it barely came to my waist and did nothing to keep the wind off my torso or insulate me from the ground. Later I borrowed a full length plastic bivvy bag from Dianna. This was very effective against the wind but not for ground insulation.

SURVIVAL BLANKETS: Difficult to get to cover you and block the wind and inadequate for ground insulation. Better off with the bivvy bag but would be OK to treat an injured patient as you could "tuck them in". (Ed comment: Foil survival

“blankets” are available as a sack which you can get into. More effective than a just a blanket)

FOOD: When all the food was pooled there was enough for everyone to be well fed for at least another 24 hours or meagrely fed for several days. In a real life situation you would have to weigh up your rescue options and plan food immediately because it would be too late to start rationing a day later.

Would you survive a night out with just your day gear? If the weather stayed within normal parameters you would be uncomfortable but OK, in really cold, wet or high wind situations you would struggle and probably huddling would be your only hope. Which means if you became separated from your group or tramped alone your risks would immediately become hugely increased. Tere

Nervous Knob (1820m)

It was a fine morning when four keen men climbers turned up for this trip, with not a woman in sight. Maybe the name of this peak in the Craigieburn Range discouraged their interest?

From the Visitors Centre car park, we plodded up the road to the Broken River Ski Field, around the locked gate (to prevent car access) and eventually to the ski club accommodation huts. Here we met a band of volunteers staying over the weekend carrying out maintenance in preparation for the winter season. At this point we were right on the bush line having gained quite a lot of height and grateful for the water available at the huts. Well hydrated, from there we climbed the stairs and track to the bottom of the ski field. A 40 min easy scramble up tussock slope and shingle scree and we were on the ridge. On the other side we were looking straight down into Hamilton Creek, a gnarly ridge face with big rock outcrops, strange thin pinnacles of rock and lots of steep chutes and screes. We turned north on the ridge and it was easy going onto Nervous Knob. Big views all round with the higher Hamilton Peak not far away looking tempting for a dash to the summit and back – but better reserved for another day.

We were surprised to discover that had it been ski season, we could have taken a ski rope tow right to the top of Nervous Knob, but the tow needed a lot of maintenance before it was towing anyone anywhere.

For lunch we dropped down to the tussock line & enjoyed the sun, then checked out the ski lodge (peering through the windows!) and returned to the accommodation huts. We arrived just as the cable car was departing for the ski field car park – would we like a ride? We sure would - thank- you. So we had a 5min near vertical descent with the Safety Engineer who had just renewed it's certification. He confirmed the emergency brake had been tested and did work – what a relief! If the cable broke there would not be very much time to apply the brake.

40min later we were back at the car & looking forward to refreshments at Springfield.

Nothing to be nervous about after all! Dennis

Lake Man, Top Hope Hot Spring

Easter, 6-9 April

A wonderful weekend with perfect weather. Bill dropped Sergey, Glenda, Bronwyn and me at the Boyle River while he parked at the Engineer's Camp. The river was very low as were all the rivers causing no crossing problems at all. We headed up the Doubtful taking a break outside the hut, continuing on until we turned off a few hours later up the track alongside Kedron Stream. The highlight here was the stags roaring. I'd heard the occasional one previously, but here they were answering Bill and Sergey's roars and at times sounded quite angry. No sightings though.

It took over a couple of hours to break out of the bush to arrive at the Lake Man Biv, a delightful little hut in which some hunters were well ensconced. There was no track from here and after some initial bush bashing, Bill sorted out a route up to the lake. We arrived about 5p.m. It didn't take long to have our tents pitched and enjoy the evening highlighted by the golden glow from the full moon. This continued all night eliminating the need to use torches in the middle of the night.

We woke to clear skies and decided to head off up the ridge. Magnificent views in all directions as Bill headed off for a quick summit of Mt Lakeman. Meanwhile Glenda had been enjoying the solitude, giving her knees a rest. Rather than losing altitude we sidled around to the grassy saddle with views down to the Hope. Before reaching Pussy Stream for lunch there was a knee-weakening near vertical section to contend with. The stream lead out to St Jacob's Flat with long golden grasses. About 15 minutes beyond Top Hope hut Glenda steadied herself on a branch as she went down a bank. It snapped propelling her forward, followed by a rock hitting her head and giving her an instant egg. However water and anti-inflammatory saw her heading to the hot springs.

They were set in a grassy area under a bank of beech trees, with their roots a coppery colour, stained from the minerals. We set up camp and had tea . The pool was too hot for me but fortunately a side stream has been dammed enabling a mix of water, as it can be diverted. We all had a lovely soak and repeated this before breakfast. It was bliss to be able to put our boots on having soaked our socks in hot water. We could wrap hot gaiters around our legs before the immediate river crossing and still stay warm.

Sunday was our shortest day. Time for a leisurely lunch at St Jacobs hut. Once across the

swing bridge we headed down to the Hope and found an ideal camp spot. We gathered firewood and built a campfire on the riverbank. Glenda brought along some marshmallows and whittled sticks for the toasting. A sliver of moon appeared over the hillside and we watched it rise before heading off to sleep.

Monday morning we were packed and away by just after 8.00 Had a look at the spring at the Halfway hut – no comparison. The final walk through the beech forest, seemed to go on forever. One redeeming feature was the bird life. Their song dominated a background drone of wasps on the honeydew. Bill had gone on

ahead to pick up the vehicle and was waiting at Windy Point when we got in around 1.30.

A great tramp enjoyed by Bronwyn, Sergey, Glenda, Bill and Wendy

Magdalen Hut Mid - Winter excursion

A swarthy team of six intrepid trampers headed off into the snow fields of the Lewis Pass after winter's biggest snow dump so far. Spurred on by an improving weather forecast and the news that DOC had been "working on the track" we donned winter gear and headed up the freshly cleared track. The damage caused by the heavy snow dump was soon evident with the sawdust from recent chainsaw activity on the many tree falls. We grew to appreciate the extent of DOC's track maintenance when we reached the end of their activity. We were now confronted by lots of tree dodging, branch scrambling and side diversions to work our way through the snow damaged bush. As soon as the open spaces of the river flats appeared we gratefully left the bush to walk across the snowy flats on top of the frozen swamp. Much faster and easier progress quickly took us within sight of the hut across the river. So wet feet won out over a 40 minute diversion to the bridge (for most) and we were welcomed by the homely Magdalen Hut glistening in the sun. A happy afternoon was spent sun soaking, building a miniature snowman (definitely male) and a luxurious snow settee before a spontaneous snow fight broke out and the child within each participant was released.

We spent a jolly evening soaking in hut cosiness, the ambiance of good company and joie de vivre of enhanced merriment. Nobody minded the long night to catch up on sleep. Any brave soul who ventured outside that night was treated to crystal clear starry skies with reflected sparkles and twinkling in the snow fields surrounding the hut.

Sunday morning dawned with clear skies, crystalline frosts and a red sunrise. Frosty and clear... delicious! We made fast progress across the frozen snow (opting this time to cross via the bridge and keep our feet dry) and bush travel was made easier by some judicious track clearing on the way in (thank you Bill). Alas the sun didn't last long and temperatures barely rose above 2 degrees.

Eventually, six happy trampers were rewarded by a cuppa and mousetraps generously hosted by our residential Boyle Village club member. Thank you Bill. Winter tramping at its best. (Glenda, Bill, Dennis, Claire, Dianna and Carol).

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



Big crowd for pot-luck dinner



Mt Alford



The "shortcut." Upper Hope River



Bike Trip—Lake Ellesmere district



Pony Point, Lyttelton Harbour



Nervous Knob, Craigieburn Range





Mt Barron, Arthur's Pass





Magdalen Hut, Lewis Pass



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 Edgeware Rd after it crosses Springfield Rd.

Trip Grading

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

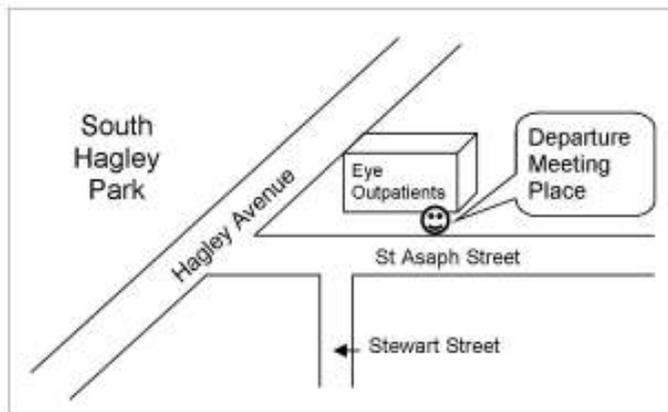
If you are planning to go on an overnight trip, please contact Trip Leader for information about food and equipment requirements.

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.