

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 TO OCTOBER 2013

Chairperson	Dennis W	Tel. 359 1211
Club Captain	Mike R	Tel. 337 5944
Secretary	Sandra F	Tel. 980 4140
Treasurer	Heather M	Tel. 332 6281
Newsletter	Bronwyn M	Tel. 359 7331
Website	Claire T	Tel. 339 0992
Members Contact	Sandra F	Tel. 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

We welcome new members.

From Your Committee

AGM

(Reprint of Dennis's (Chairperson)'s Report

"Welcome to the AGM and taking an interest in the running of the club. My thanks to all of the Committee for their activities to keep the club going.

We are a small committee which relies on everyone to pitch in. We've had a really good core team this year. Just to remind you: Rose as Secretary; Sandra – social organiser, printing of newsletter, stands in for me & Secretary if required; Heather Treasurer; Claire – Website; Bronwyn – Newsletter, Mike as Club Captain & myself as Chairperson and Newsletter support.

Thanks to the Trip Leaders. I won't mention all by name in case I leave someone out. Without the Trip Leaders we would not have a club.

But if you look through the Newsletter there are nine members leading almost all our trips. We are thin on the ground. If we lost one leader, we would probably have difficulty filling the program. Leaders are always on the lookout for new trips. Personally I spend at least a couple of hours before any planning meeting studying the information I have about trips and trying to find interesting ones and ones that haven't been done for a while.

We have had a couple of members comment that we have not been running enough "middle of the road trips", between Easy and Moderate. But trip ideas from members outside of the Leaders are not forthcoming. So please if you have trip you would like to do, tell or email us. Or better still, offer to lead the trip but ask for an experienced leader to back you up. We do not require Trip Leaders to be trained First Aiders. Until 2011, Trip Leaders had no formal First Aid training.

And thanks to the members who do come on our trips. We have a small group of our total membership who are active and a large group who aren't. It isn't encouraging for Trip Leaders to plan a trip, turn up on the day and discover only one or two others interested in the challenge. But fortunately that doesn't happen very often.

Membership is always a challenge. There is just not the interest in tramping that there once was. There isn't any quick solution. The best recruitment is word of mouth. So when the opportunity arises, encourage outsiders to come out with us. Our point of difference is being a small friendly club."

The AGM was not well attended but thanks to the members who did attend. The new Committee consists of previous Committee members Sandra, Claire, Bronwyn, Heather, Michael R. & Dennis, with new members Tere & Michael B. Welcome to the Committee Tere and Michael, it's great to have some new blood. The Office Holders for the Club are on the front page of the Newsletter.

Newsletter – Emailed or Posted?

Some members may prefer to have the newsletter emailed only. This would save the club postage too, as this is a significant cost for the club. You can opt in to receive just the emailed pdf version by emailing this preference to hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz. File is size about 5Mb due to the colour photos.

Hagley Tramping Club 40th Anniversary

Next year the Club will be celebrating 40 years since its formation. The Committee has started the planning for an anniversary weekend. Date and location to be finalised but we are trying for March 2014. This will be a fun event with a mix of tramping, socialising and eating. When the plan firms up we will be attempting to contact previous members of the club to join the celebration.

Back Country Foods Orders

Place your order by 8 July for delivery at the July meeting (or by arrangement).

The prices are considerably below shop prices – see enclosed order form.

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

To pay by internet banking, pay to the account number on your subscription form. Include your name and “BC Foods”. Please do not combine BC food payments with membership subs. The next order will be placed in November.

Subscription Fees

Subs for 2013-14 are due. As we forgot to send out the forms with the last newsletter they are included for those who are still to pay. Payment options are on the forms. Please update your contact details if they have changed.

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Sunday 23 June	Bell Hill	
Leader: Diane tel. 358 4720	Easy	Transport \$8
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel 9am		

Drive to the end of Dalethorpe Rd, past sign "Dogs will be shot". An easy stroll up a forestry road then a short climb to enjoy views from the top. If there is snow on the mountains, all the better.

Wednesday 26 June	Club Social Night
	"Coping with the Unexpected" 7.30m at Dennis's. First Aid Refresher, using the PLBs & the 1971 Documentary <i>A Stupid Way to Die</i> .

Sunday 30 June	Foggy Peak Circuit	
Leader: Heather tel. 332 6281	Moderate	Transport \$20
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel 8.30am		

Starting from the top of Porters Pass we climb 800m onto Foggy Peak from where there are great views of the Cragieburn basin and Canterbury plains. From there we will follow a wide ridge down towards the Kowhai river to meet the Kowhai track. We will use a car shuttle to return to the cars. Probably too early for snow but ice-axe and crampons may be needed if there is an early fall – phone Heather to find out.

Sat 6 - Sun 7 July	Mid-winter Xmas at Woolshed Creek Hut	
Leader: Heather tel. 332 6281	Easy	Transport \$25
Please book with Heather by Sun 30 June		

It's only a short 3-hour walk in to the Woolshed Creek Hut at Mt Somers for our mid-winter Christmas party. Bring Christmas dinner food and drink along to this large warm hut where we will celebrate mid-winter in style by dressing for dinner (dresses, shirts and ties etc a must). For those with energy to spare there will be the option to walk out via the "bus stop" or you can return via the shorter Blackburn mine track. Don't forget to bring a secret Santa gift (\$5 - \$10).

Sunday 14 July	Mt Guy	
Leaders Bill & Wendy tel. 354 2277	Moderate	Transport \$30

Depart from Shell Templeton at 7am. Drive to Lake Clearwater. We will follow the new track to the top of Mt Guy (1319m) for views of the snowy peaks and the lake. It's an 800m climb. Bring an ice-axe.

<p>Wednesday 24 July</p> 	<p>Club Social Night Abberley Crescent Hall, 7.30pm Games Night Sharpen your tramping hut social skills with some fast and fun card and board games. Bring a game or just come along and join in.</p>
--	--

Sunday 21 July	Port Hills Circuit	
Leader Dennis tel. 359 1211	Easy Moderate	Transport n/a
Meet at Bowenvale Ave car park at 9.00am.		

We will take the steeper climb out of Bowenvale to the Crater Rim Walkway then east until track is closed. Back to Sugarloaf & beyond the Sign of the Kiwi until we are ready to turn back. Return to cars via Victoria Park. A relatively short day but varied terrain and interesting views.

Sat 27 – Sun 28 July	Otehake River Hot Pools	
Leader Tere tel. 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$40
Book with Tere by 21 July		

We drive to Aikens 10 mins west of Otira where we leave the cars. The Otehake hot pools are a 5-6 hour tramp up the Taramakau and around Lake Kaurapataka with river crossings of the Otira and the Otehake. There is no hut so a tent is required and of course togs and towel. Return the same way.

Sunday 4 August	Tiromoana Bush	
Leader Diane tel. 358 4720	Easy moderate	Transport \$12
Depart from Belfast Hotel 9am		

From the Kate Valley carpark, we cross the wetlands to Ella Peak. After lunch we go down to the beach and then start our return journey climbing right up to the cliff top. Good views of the coastline.

Wednesday Aug 7, HTC Committee Meeting at Dennis's 7.30pm
--

Sat 10 - Sun 11 August	Mt Brown	
Leaders Wendy & Bill tel. 354 2277	Moderate	Transport \$60
Please book with Wendy & Bill by 3 August		

Mt Brown Hut is behind Lake Kaniere, Hokitika. This hut has been rebuilt and is maintained by the Mt Brown Community Project Team from Hokitika. The hut has 4 bunks so we will take tents, carry-mats and cookers. There will be a \$5 charge for the coal they fly in.

Sunday 18 August	Cloudy Hill	
Leader: Heather tel. 332 6281	Easy- Moderate	Transport \$20
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel 8.30am		

Starting from the Porter Heights ski-field road turnoff, we climb only 650m onto Cloudy Hill from where there are great views of the Craigieburn basin. From there we will drop a little height before continuing on to the peak at 1456m. Hoping for snow. With a gentle gradient, this is a good trip for anyone new to tramping in snow.

Sunday 25 August	Rakaia Walkway	
Leader Sandra tel. 980 4140	Easy	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Tavern 8am		

We will head away to enjoy the fabulous scenery of the Rakaia Gorge and its walkway. There may be a variation by going over the fence to Terrace Downs for a coffee. Return the same way.



Club Social Night

Wednesday 28 August Dinner at Little Saigon Restaurant
547 Colombo Street; meet at 6.30 pm.

Book with Sandra tel. 980 4140 by 24th August

Come along and enjoy a winter evening with friends and family.
Its a BYO restaurant.

NOTE: As Fathers Day is on Sunday, this trip is on SATURDAY

!!Saturday 31 Aug	Nina Valley	
Leader Neal tel. 343 6980	Easy-Moderate	Transport \$30
Depart from Belfast Hotel 7.30am		

Starting from the Deerstalkers Lodge on the Lewis Pass Rd, we take the easy-going track up the valley to the Nina Hut and return. A pretty valley with scenery that may remind you of Tolkein and *The Lord of the Rings*.

Sat 7- Sun 8 Sept	Cow Stream Hot Springs	
Leader Tere tel. tel. 981 6431	Easy	Transport \$35
Book with Tere by 1 Sept.		

Leaving 8am, meeting place to be confirmed. We start from the Lake Tennyson Rd. Three hours of undulating track walking. There will be time to soak in the pool and explore. A tent is required, and don't forget your togs and towel.

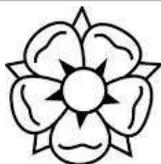
Sunday 15 Sept	Mt Oxford	
Leader Bronwyn tel. 359 7331	Moderate	Transport \$15

Depart from Belfast Tavern at 8am. We will start from the Coopers Creek carpark and climb through beech forest then up through snow tussock to the summit (1364 m). Great views. Variant route possible for the return to the carpark.

Wednesday Sept 18 HTC Committee Meeting at Tere's 7.30pm
--

Sunday 22 Sept	Banks Peninsula Southern Bays	
Leader Dennis tel. 359 1211	Easy Moderate	Transport \$10
Meet outside Halswell School at 8.30am.		

Drive to Birdlings Flat where we leave the cars. Cross the shingle to check out the Oruaka Pa site, then east over the headland to Oashore Bay and the bays beyond, which are only accessible by foot. Return the same way. We don't cover a lot of distance on this trip but lots of ups and downs earn a "Moderate" grading.



Wednesday 25 Sept Club Social Night

Abberley Crescent Hall 7.30pm

Travellers' Tales

Come along and see photos of hiking in Borneo (Heather) and looking for wildflowers in Western Australia (Bronwyn).
Supper to follow.

NOTE: An overnight and a day trip this weekend.

Saturday 28 - Sun 29 Sept	Lewis Tops	
Leader Neal tel. 343 6980	Easy Moderate	Transport \$35
Book with Neal by 23 Sept		

We drive to the top of the Lewis Pass. It's quite a steep track to the tops then a classic long ridge walk with superb views of the surrounding mountains. We may climb a peak and then will camp by the tarns. Return the same way.

Sunday 29 Sept	Taylors Mistake to Godley Head	
Leader Michael B. tel. 358 3081	Easy	Transport n/a

Meet at Taylors Mistake carpark. We'll check out the new \$600,000 walkway to the gun emplacements (which may be still closed), find a good lunch spot, then walk back on the cycle track.

Sunday 6 Oct	Mystery Winter Walk	
Leader Diane tel. 358 4720	Easy	Transport n/a
Depart from St Asaph St 10am		

An interesting and easy winter wander. Boots not necessary; sturdy shoes will do. Bring your lunch.

Wednesday Oct 9 HTC Trip Planning Meeting at Heathers 7.00pm
--

Sat 12 – Sun 13 Oct	Lake Christabel	
Leader Tere tel. 981 6431	Moderate	Transport \$40
Book with Tere by 6 Oct		

Leaving 7am, meeting place to be confirmed. We start from Palmers Rd near Springs Junction. Not steep but a longish day of 6-7 hours. Christabel is an 8-bunk standard hut. Out the same way, although depending on party numbers, there is a possibility of some going out via Rough Creek while others return to the vehicles.

Sunday 20 Oct	Hogsback Track (Castle Hill)	
Leader Diane tel. 358 2784	Easy	Transport \$15
Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel 8.30am		

This is a fairly new track, close to the mountains. It's easy going except for the hill at the end. On the return through Darfield we'll stop for icecreams.

Sat 26- Mon 28 Oct (Labour weekend)	Waiuta, Big River, Inangahua River - goldfields exploration	
Leader Glenda tel. 942 4293	Moderate	Transport \$60
Please book with Glenda by 20 Oct. Enquiries welcome.		

An early start on Saturday for the drive to Reefton. From historic Waiuta township we walk 4 hours to Big River Hut. On Saturday we are based at the hut and can explore Big River and visit the fascinating restored poppet head and winding plant. Sunday is an early for the adventurous, walking from Big River out to the Inangahua Suspension bridge via Deep Creek (7 hours). Depending on the group, some may wish to return via the easier Waiuta route. Car shuttle to be organised. Late return to Christchurch.

Trip Reports

Klondyke Tarns, Lewis Pass, 16-17 March

Sergey and Claire joined us as we headed north to the Lewis Pass (first outing in our new Prado). We parked slightly off-road near the Rahu Saddle. It was a relatively gradual climb following a creek, and just after I emptied some of my drinking water out to lighten the load, the creek dried up. This put me into a slight panic mode. What if the tarns had dried up? Much of the country had been declared a drought zone. Even here on the Coast the verges were dry! But I needn't have worried, as leaving the bush we skirted around the lower tarn.

From here the going got steeper. The land plateaued and we fossicked around deliberating on the best spot to pitch the tents. Bill and I chose a spot closest to the largest tarn. Sergey and Claire's site was flatter but more exposed to the winds that whipped through during the night. After pitching we climbed up to a trig on the ridgeline. Reading the names scratched on over previous decades, we spotted that of a certain gentleman of the Boyle village. We lingered on here as the views were magnificent: down to Springs Junction and the Maruia River in one direction, and layers of ridgelines all around. Going back down we walked through carpets of late flowering gentians. The weather cooled as we boiled the billy for tea, soup and the evening meal and we were crawling into our tents by 7.30 pm.

Sunday's weather wasn't brilliant. With light rain already falling, our plans for an alternative route out were foiled. We returned the same way taking less than 2 1/2 hours. At Culverden Claire cranked up the jet-boil for a cuppa and sandwiches in the park. A lovely weekend. Not at all onerous but the delightful scenery made it memorable. Thanks Claire, Sergey and Bill.

Wendy.

Mt Aicken, Arthur's Pass, 7 April.

A clear calm autumn day found four of us, Mike, Steinar, Agnete & Dennis assembled at the Yaldhurst Hotel at 7.00am for Mike's "Hard" rated trip to the summit of Mt Aicken.

After what seemed a quick drive, we were putting on tramping gear in the rather cold Devil's Punchbowl Falls car park. Fifteen minutes later we were branching off the Falls track onto the Mt Aicken track. Not long after we came across relics of the tunnel, headstock and water pipe that fed water down to the power station in the Bealey River to provide electricity to Arthur's Pass before it was connected to the national grid. Climbing steadily with a break for morning tea, we came out of the bush to a DOC warning sign that there were no more track markers and to continue was for experienced & well equipped trampers only. We looked each other up and down and decided that we met the criteria and carried on. Actually there were poles to follow but they were widely spaced with cairns in the gaps

between. Mike was trialling out his brand new birthday present Garmin GPS and we spent some time interpreting what it was telling us. From which we quickly drew the conclusion that to use it effectively, you really had to get very familiar with it.

By midday we were on the main ridge to the top admiring views. In particular, great views of Avalanche Peak, Mt Rolleston & the upper end of Devil's Punchbowl Creek with the rugged Blimit guarding the headwaters. At this point, not being very fit, I decided to go no further while Mike, Steinar and Agnete climbed and edged their way along a very rocky ridge. I watched them for a while and 30 min later could just make out their silhouettes on the far ridge while they had their lunch. In the meantime another three trampers arrived in time for their lunch and I had my lunch with them.

Now Mt Aicken is a rather odd peak in that it is not actually the highest point on the ridge in that vicinity. It is off the main ridge and on the map, it looks perfectly simple. But when they got there Mike and team were surrounded by peaks and they couldn't figure out which exactly was Mt Aicken. So Mike followed the GPS and when he arrived at the "right" place, the GPS decided Mt Aicken was somewhere else. So when Mike and the team returned, they were somewhat mystified as to exactly which peak was Mt Aicken and were fairly sure they had not actually climbed it.

After lunch I dropped down to the bush line and found a comfortable place to sit and watch for their return. After I'd been there for a while a flock (5) keas turned up and decided that I was good for something. In order to ensure at least one of them got a bite at something, they split up and came in at 5 different angles. Frustrated that I or my gear wasn't for eating or playing, one kea set to work and demolished a cairn nearby, pushing even quite large rocks off with his beak and making sure they rolled down the bank on which the cairn was built. Just to demonstrate he was in charge of that environment and not the human intruders! After we all met up again, we were soon back at the car and later enjoyed refreshments at Springfield. Thanks Mike – a really interesting trip.

Dennis

Hog's back Track, 26 May.

Where were you? We knew there was a forecast for snow down to 800m and north-west gales but that didn't deter us. Six brave souls headed east. We had fine and windy conditions as we set off up Pettigrew's Rd. We could see the weather out to the west and decided we were in the right place. We passed Mt Sinclair to find a nice sheltered lunch spot. After chocolates at lunch I guess it wasn't surprising we didn't climb the mountain. They rolled out the red carpet for us at the Hill top Tavern where we enjoyed drinks. Thank you Ian, Rose, Jill, Val and leader Diane.

Michael B.

Enjoyed a great trip with the Club?

Why not write up a Trip Report so others can enjoy reading about it? Please email to the club at: hagleytrampingclub@yahoo.co.nz

Good Trip Photos needed too! Email us your best photos with a note on locations.

Trip Pics



Relaxing at Pegasus Town on the Coast Track Trip

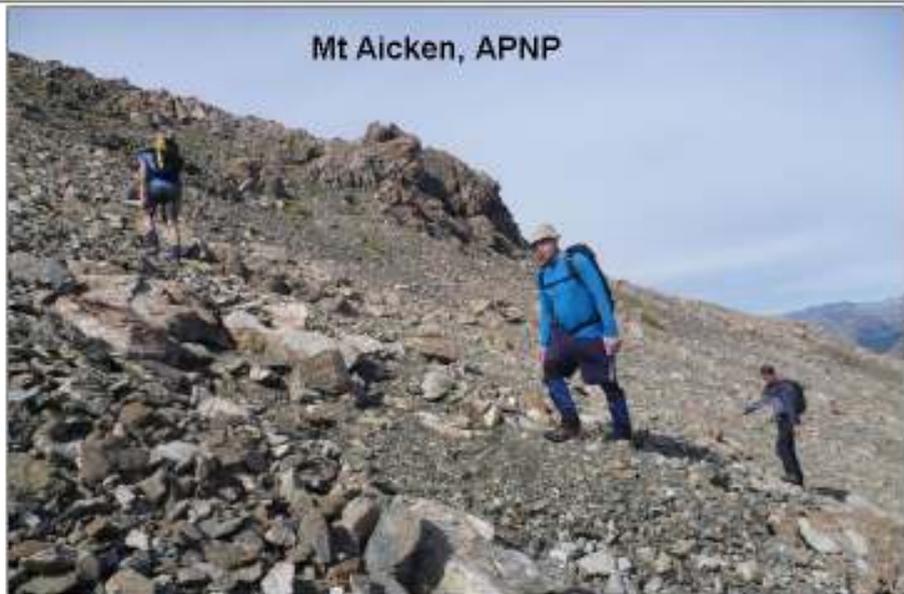


Boyle Flat Weekend



**Sudden Valley & Barrier Falls
Arthur's Pass National Park**

Mt Aicken, APNP



Kea demolishes
a cairn.
See Trip Report



Lake Hood Bike Trip

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 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

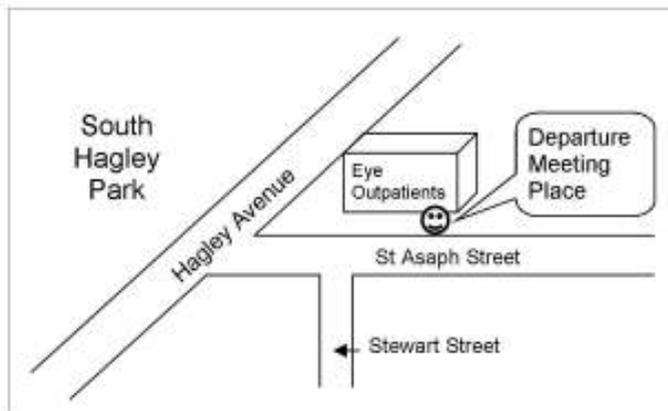
If you are planning to go on an overnight trip, please contact Trip Leader for information about food and equipment requirements.

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.