

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.



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2017

JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2018

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

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

Hi Trampers

Hooray! It’s Spring again. The days are getting longer, the temperatures are climbing and the heating bills are falling.

As usual the rain has scuppered a few trips over Winter although some great snow and ice days have been had, especially at the Mid-Winter Christmas. However, you’ll be like me, you’re craving those Hot Summer Days and long warm evenings.

As you will see the leaders have put together a great range of trips to take us through to next year.

For some time now we have had a system where for day trips you just turn up at the right location and time on the day. This will be changing as from the next newsletter, and will mean leaders no longer have to get out of their warm and comfortable beds on rainy Sundays to sit in a carpark in case some raving optimist turns up. In future you will need to read each trip carefully as the leader will specify how they wish their trip to be run. Some will still be “turn up at location & time”, others will require you to call, text or email to book. Please use the preferred contact method requested if it is possible; obviously if you can't text or email you are welcome to phone. A reminder of this change will be in the next newsletter as well.

Just by the way, if you are a non-member you are welcome to join any day trip but we would ask that you contact the leader to let them know you are coming. This gives the leader a chance to assess your fitness for the trip and you don't get left behind if you get lost finding the meeting place.

Looking forward to seeing you out in the sunshine.

Tere

Trip Reports

We haven't had any recently but there is a Trip Report for the St James Walkway 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 great if you could share the story with a Trip Report.

Dennis - Ed

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Wednesday 27 September at 7.30 pm Club Social Night
Abberley Crescent Hall

A quick club meeting followed by a talk from Vesna on her recent walk of the Larapinta trail in Northern Territories. If you have never heard of the Larapinta Trail – come along and find out! Followed by supper.

Sunday 01 October

Kaiapoi Island - Waimak Walkway

This track is a long flat walk under trees and along stop banks. Starting this walk from the Kaiapoi Island park entrance, Parish Lane-Raven Quay corner in Kaiapoi we will walk until lunch then return. Coffee in Kaiapoi to finish.

Leader Tere Ph 981 6431

Easy

Transport N/C

Depart from Richill St Belfast at 9:00 am.

Saturday 07 - Sunday 08 October

Carlyle hut

A relatively short 7km walk across farmland and through bush into Carlyle hut (basic 8 bunks) in Lewis Pass. This should allow us time to explore further up the valley either Sat afternoon or Sunday morning

Leader Heather Ph 332 6281

Moderate

Transport \$30

Please book with Heather by Sunday 1st October.

Sunday 15 October	Mt Lyndon
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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.

Leader Vesna Ph 942 6955

Moderate

Transport \$15

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00am.

Wednesday 18 October at 7.30 pm	Committee Meeting
Club Committee meeting at Pat's home in Avonhead. (Ph 960 7031)	

Saturday 21 - Monday 23 October	There is currently no trip planned for Labour weekend
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Wednesday 25 October at 7.00pm	Club Restaurant Night Madam Kwong's
Restaurant night at Madam Kwong's 155 Blenheim Rd behind Caltex.	
Please book with Dennis by Friday 20 October. Ph 359 1211	

!Note the following trip is on Saturday!

Saturday 28 October	Panama Rock
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Starting in Le Bons Bay, up Panama Road to the entrance into Panama Rock Reserve. Up Grants track, then follow around to Otepatou Reserve and 755m Lavericks Peak. Back to the Panama Rock and down the dyke track to our cars.

Leader Vesna Ph 021 2772422

Easy/Moderate

Transport \$25

Depart from main road outside Halswell School at 8 am.

Saturday 04 - Sunday 05 November	Mt Norma, Lewis Pass
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Drive to Palmer Lodge and tramp up Easy Spur to tent by the tarn below Mt Norma. Climb Mt Norma (1722m) on Sunday morning then back down the same way. Bring tents, cookers etc. Maps BT23 & BU23.

Leader Bill & Wendy. Ph 354 2277 Moderate Plus Transport \$30
Please book by Sunday 29th Oct with Bill & Wendy

Sunday 12 November	Weka Pass Old Coach Road
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A farm walk along the route of the original Weka Pass road. (Farmer's permission pending) Starting at Weka Pass, we walk across farmland through some interesting limestone formations to the back of Waikari. Return to cars the same way.

Please ring Glenda and book for this trip. She will advise where the trampers from Christchurch will meet her.

Leader Glenda Ph 03 314 3365 Easy Transport \$12
Depart from Main North Rd end of Richill St Belfast at 8:30 am.

Wednesday 15 - Saturday 18 November (4 days)	Waiau Pass Blue Lake
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We will tramp over Maling Pass and up the Waiau River to tent below Waiau Pass. Next day over Waiau Pass, passed Lake Constance to Blue Lake. Back the same way. Bring tents, cookers etc. Maps BT24 & BS24

Leader Bill & Wendy. Ph 354 2277 Moderate Plus Transport \$40
Please book by Sunday 12th Nov with Bill & Wendy

**Friday 17 - Sunday 19 November
(3 days)**

**Brodrick Pass/Mt McKenzie in the
Huxley valley**

Drive down to Huxley Lodge near Aoraki/Mt Cook Friday morning and walk in to Fork huts for Friday night. Saturday walk up to Brodrick Pass and for some stop there and others may climb Mt McKenzie (2156m). Return to Brodrick hut (or Forks hut) for the night, then on Sunday walk out and drive home. This tramp requires a 2 hour walk down a 4WD track to the start at Monument Hut, so a suitable vehicle would save a bit of time if one was available (or mountain bike). Ice axe and crampons essential for those wanting to climb Mt McKenzie. 3 huts close together and the river is bridged so very safe tramping. Maps Ohau H38 & Tasman H37. Moderate tramp and easy mountaineering.

Leader Neal Ph 027 406 6614 or
343 6980

Moderate Plus Transport \$75

Please book by Sunday 10th November with Neal

Wednesday 22 November at 7.30pm

Club Social Night

Abberley Crescent Hall

Club social night. Dennis will show an interesting assortment of trip pictures taken over the 15 years of owning a digital camera. Enjoy past trips and faces new and old! Supper to follow.

Sunday 26 November

Pigeon Bay walkway

Beginning at the Pigeon Bay Domain, the walkway traverses the length of Pigeon Bay over farmland to Wakaroa Point. From a gate the walk follows the water's edge briefly before climbing higher onto golden grassland. This walkway crosses private land and eventually the track reaches the cliff edge with big views over Pegasus Bay.

Leader Dennis Ph 021 243 9999 or
Ph 359 1211

Easy

Transport \$20

Depart from main road outside Halswell School at 8 am

Wednesday 29 November at 7.30 pm Committee Meeting

Club Committee meeting at Heather's home in Barrington.

Saturday 2nd December Evening

Club Christmas Dress-Up Party

The Club Christmas party is at Sally & Chris's home in Hillmorton.

Starting about 5pm and dinner about 6.30 – 7.00pm.

BYO drinks and Xmas food to share.

(Note we are not planning a BBQ for this Xmas Party)

Partners very welcome & bring a Secret Santa gift (\$5-\$10).

Dress up theme "Food"

Please contact Sally & Chris Ph 338 1097 for their address.

Sunday 03 December	Sumner to New Brighton
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Catching the bus from the city Exchange we will go to Sumner then we will walk around the estuary along the 360 Trail. Aim for coffee or possibly lunch at Breakpoint Backpackers cafe in Brighton before catching the bus back to the exchange. Full information on the walkway can be located at <http://christchurch360trail.org.nz/trail-segments>.

I recommend wear your trainers due to hard walking surfaces.

Bus fares or Metrocard will be needed.

Leaders Tere Ph 021 1401104 or

Ph 981 6431

Easy

Transport NA

Dennis. Ph 021 243 9999

Meet and depart from Bus Exchange at 9 am.

Saturday 9 - Thursday 14 December	Old Ghost Road West Coast
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This is a two directional tramp. One party will leave Seddonville on Saturday 9th Dec and finish 12th Dec. The other party leaves from Lyell on Sunday 10th Dec and finish 14th Dec. Travel home will be in swapped cars from either end.

This trip is essentially fully booked due to pre-booked accommodation, however on the off-chance of a vacancy, please contact Sally for further details.

Leader Sally B Ph 338 1097

Moderate Plus

Transport \$55

Sunday 14 January 2018!	Castle Hill and Cave Stream
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In the morning we will explore the rocks on Castle hill. After lunch we will traverse the Cave Stream cave (grade depending on water level). There will be alternative walking options if the water is too high or for those who prefer to stay above ground. Those entering the cave **MUST** bring a torch (head torches recommended), warm clothing and a change of clothes for after – you will get wet to the waist at the entrance. Those intending to traverse the cave for the first time may wish to phone for more information.

Leader Heather Ph 332 6281 Mixed Transport \$20
 Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.30 am.

Saturday 20 - Sunday 21 January	Falling Mountain, APNP
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We are planning on leaving late Friday afternoon to camp at the Hawdon shelter for an early start on the Saturday morning. We are going to head up the Hawdon River to Walker Pass and then onto Falling Mountain.

We will camp at the tarn and then head back to the cars on Sunday. These are going to be 6-8 hour days with a bit of climbing on the first day. Will need tents, mats and cookers.

Leader Sergey and Claire Moderate Plus Transport \$30
 Ph or txt 021 076 2500

Please contact Claire by Sunday 14th January if interested in joining us.

Wednesday 24 January at 6.00pm	Club Picnic and Games Night Abberley Park
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New Year Picnic in Abberley Park. It's not pot-luck but you might like to bring something for dessert to share. Followed by any outdoor games you would like to bring. Last year was a small turn-out but we had an enjoyable social evening with physical exercise too.

Sunday 28 January	Lake Hill Harrison's Bight
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We will drive to Lake Heron and follow the track to climb Lake Hill (762m) and down to Harrison Bight for lunch. Return the same way. Map BX19

Leader Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277 Easy Moderate Transport \$30
 Depart from Z Service Station in Main South Rd Templeton at 8 am.

Wednesday 31 January at 7.00 pm	Trip Planning Meeting
!Note 7.00pm start time!	
Trip Planning meeting at Dennis's home in Bishopdale.	

Friday 02 - Sunday 04 February	Base Camp Arthur's Pass
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Main trip Saturday will be the climb into Temple Basin, but various trips are options too. Cost for the accommodation will be notified when finalised.

Planning to drive to Arthur's Pass on Friday evening but there is an option to drive up early Saturday.

Leader Dennis Ph 021 243 9999 or
 Ph 359 1211 Mixed Transport \$30
 Please book with Dennis by Sunday 14 Jan

Sunday 11 February	Crater Rim
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Starting at the Sign of the Kiwi we will head towards Sugar Loaf and onwards for lunch then returning to the cars at the Kiwi.

Leader Tere Ph 021 1401104 or
 Ph 981 6431 Easy Transport N/C
 Depart from Cashmere Rd opposite Princess Margaret Hospital at 9 a.m.

Sunday 18 February	French Peak / Little River
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From Okuti Valley Reserve through Farm and climb to 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.

Leader Vesna Ph 021 2772422 Easy/Moderate Transport \$10
 Depart from main road outside Halswell School at 8 a.m.

Saturday 24 - Sunday 25 February	Basins Hut
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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

Wednesday 28 February at 7.30pm	Club Social Night
	Margaret Mahy Park
<p>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.</p> <p>Organiser Tere Ph Tere Ph 021 1401104 or Ph 981 6431</p>	

Trip Reports

St James Walkway

Trampers: Bill & Wendy T, Pauline C, Glenda F, Sally B & Dennis W

The St James Walkway had been on my mind for some time, one of those must do Canterbury tramps which I had not previously completed.

September seemed like a good month, after mid-winter and before the NW season. But the weather leading up to departure date had been constant bands of heavy rain across the alps so surely there would be a break in the weather for us?

Monday afternoon the Lewis Pass Rd was closed for snow but the forecast predicted a day without rain on our departure day Tuesday. As we crossed the big rivers heading inland we were somewhat surprised to see all the rivers brown and in flood, there had been a huge amount of rain in the alps in the preceding days. It was wet heading to the pass and we expected to see the promised clearing weather around every corner but at the Boyle Lodge it was raining steadily. Furthermore, a check on the rain radar indicated a big fall of rain due Thursday. The Lodge Manager warned us that if we were to get stuck anywhere, it would be the uncrossable side streams in Cannibal Gorge. So we decided to start from the Lodge end (from which it would be easier to return to) and set-out in full wet weather gear, not the way we would normally want to start a tramp. The Boyle was in flood but down at least 1.5m from its recent height. Rain, water, mud and swamp were the order of the day.

Boyle Flat hut was welcome and we lit the fire ate and drank, while Bill scouted the next hour of the track. That afternoon after much discussion we decided that the next day we would push through to Anne Hut – the longest leg of the trip. Plan was if there was a deluge on Thursday, we would have a hut day Friday and return the way we had come.

Wednesday morning was a bit wet but good tramping conditions. A short climb through the Anne Saddle was rewarded with a herd of about 30 wild horses which were wary but not afraid of the intruders. The Anne River was running high but had been very high. The wooden bridge about a km before the hut had driftwood wrapped around the hand rail stanchions. At the Anne Hut the

weather was clear but firewood scarce so we had a few runs to the beech forest to get wood to warm the hut up. Built 2011 it still actually looked pretty new. And a bonus, a mountain radio in the hut. We called up Arthurs Pass HQ for a forecast and great news – the next few days of occasional light rain showers but no big deluge! Very happy that night as no-one wanted a hut day nor to backtrack the 10.5hrs back to the Lodge.

We were in bed about an hour after dark and up at first light heading for Christopher Hut. Big valleys of tussock surrounded by beech forest and snow topped mountains. Dense matagouri along the way home to a lot of wild pigs evidenced by the numerous and large areas of ripped up turf. The Ada River was high but clear. Flood waters had been over one section of the track and due to the tall and very dense matagouri very difficult to bypass if you were on the track that day. Another herd of horses and a couple only 30 ft from the track unperturbed by our presence. When we arrived at Christopher Hut there was smoke coming from the chimney but the hut was deserted. Pig hunters had stayed the night. There was evidence of a quad bike in the mud and we had seen a couple of freshly killed pigs about 2km from the hut. DOC (we assume) had been in recently and chain sawed up a shed full of wood so there was no shortage for a warm night. The afternoon was glorious blue sky, sunshine and rainbows. We explored out from the hut along the Ada River.

Thursday morning was another wonderful walk through tussock flats and beech forest to the Ada Hut (recently cleaned by a keen volunteer according to the hut book) for early snack lunch then onto Cannibal Gorge Hut. Cannibal Gorge Hut was really cold but a load of coal had been dumped into the wood shed. Bit of challenge to get a fire going well enough to get the coal going too. Clearly previous parties had the same challenge because there was no paper of any description in the hut (usually there are a stack on magazines) and half the pages in the hut book had been ripped out. Even with a very hot coal fire the hut did not warm up much.

Next day dawned cloudy as we set off for the main road. It was easy to see why Cannibal Gorge is impassable after heavy rain. The side streams are very steep, no chance of finding an easier crossing up or down stream. We made the road in under three hours, then there was the challenge of hitching a ride back to the

Lodge to retrieve the cars. Very lucky! Before I was even changed an old time biker pulled in with his van, partner in the front and big Harley in the back. We were very welcome to ride with the Harley if we could squash in. Fortunately, Bill and I are of slight build so we squeezed in and were very happy to have got the ride so quickly. The rest of the team waiting for us to return said no-one else called in that might be suitable for a ride.

Bill & I drove back to the top of the pass, we all got changed to clean street clothes and stopped in Culverden for lunch.

We were all in agreement we had a great trip. Sure there was a bit of wet but the reward was the snow on the mountains, lush green flora and the huts to ourselves. Many puzzles were completed and countless games of speed Scrabble. Plus the 11 hours of sleep every night was a luxury too.

Thanks for coming everyone on another memorable trip.

Dennis



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

	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	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

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

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/>