



The Official Newsletter of
THE OVER FORTIES TRAMPING CLUB INC.

Going Places.....



Newsletter 344

September 2009

Snow Craft at Foggy Peak

A fun time was had learning (or practising) basic snow craft at Foggy Peak on August 5 and 9. Skills included how to use crampons and an ice axe and how to build a snow shelter. More photos on page 7.



Igloo almost finished—photo Colin Garthwaite.



Igloo under construction—photo Rod Lewis.



Steve uses his shovel as a sled—photo Neil Helson.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday September 22 at 7.30pm
 Horticultural Hall South Hagley Park
 (downstairs meeting room)

Activating a locator beacon and being rescued

One or possibly two representatives of the Wellington based Rescue Co-ordination Centre of NZ will describe the workings of the COSPAS SARTSAT system including what happens when one of our beacons is activated. This promises to be a most interesting and educational presentation.

Don't forget—Bring and Buy session at the October club night. Look out all that gear you no longer need.

Deadline: by 20th September please for October newsletter

Newsletter to Liz Griffiths at 351 4501 lizgriffiths@clear.net.nz and copy to mavis.airey@xtra.co.nz.

Trip Planners : Saturday and Sunday trips to Judy Miles at 327 9010 garyjudy@kol.co.nz
 and Wednesday trips to Marj Pollock at 389 4059 marjpol@xtra.co.nz.

Please note — address all correspondence pertaining to Club business to the Secretary

**Over Forties Tramping Club, P O Box 6505, Upper Riccarton,
 Christchurch 8442**

Established 1978 Affiliated to the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ
www.oftc.org.nz





Committee Reports



Vice Chair's Report

Hello there, it's surprising how quickly the month goes by. Hasn't the weather in the last month been great for tramping – my worry is that it is more like September than August – a forewarning of either a bad patch ahead (written on Saturday the 15th this could be so) or the portent of a dry summer – we shall just have to wait and see and make the most of the tramping opportunities as and when they arise.

The latest address list is in the process of being printed and hopefully will be received with this newsletter or shortly after – 438 members at this time with another 16 people going through the stages of joining.

At the last Committee meeting Stu reported that there were probably some places available on the Mountain Safety October First Aid course (the cost of which the Club will look at subsidising). With the new seasons back packing programme coming up it would be a good time to upgrade your skills. If interested please contact Stu.

Progress is being made on the website with hopes of the updated version being available very soon – watch this space.

Stu and a group of helpers have been updating the Members Handbook; the first draft is due to be seen at the Committee's August meeting with the aim of publication later in the year. This update will incorporate the updates to things like the trip leaders Guidelines as well as the changes in the Rules as passed at the last AGM.

That's all the news for now. I hope to be able to chat with lots of you out tramping.

Cheers

Gavin Hampton

Club Captain's Report

We are a restless lot aren't we – you will have noticed that even while we are on a tramp having fun enjoying the scenery, the company, the smells of the bush and whatever else! – we are talking about and planning the next trip! The great forward programmes we have ahead of us all the time are a result of at least some of this "track chatter". Apart from all the exciting future Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Backpacking trips advertised in this month's Going Places, there are a few things which, if we attend to them, can be filed in our box of tramping tools under "awareness and know how".

Firstly on September 22 the Club Night will feature a presentation by staff of the Rescue Co-ordination Centre, who will tell us how the whole system of rescue works both before and after a locator beacon is activated. And on Wednesday October 14 a basic navigation course is to be held at McLeans Island. Also, later this year Paul Knox is going to arrange a GPS learning day for those who own these units and for those who want to know more about them – details later. And as well as First Aid and so on, next summer we will organise another river crossing event – for a fine warm morning! And next winter another snow craft day where **we might** convince a few young (or even old) keen ones to build a snow shelter and spend the night in it, to show it can be done – survive, that is! – volunteers please!

How wonderful it was to see and read in the last issue of what our Vets got up to a few years ago. The present healthy, active culture of our Club has a lot to do with the get up and go attitude of people like those who told their stories last month – thanks Bidy and your cohorts.

And now a big thanks to all you leaders who are taking real responsibility for leading trips in a way which is reducing risk as much as possible. It is noticeable that we are getting "on to it".

Hopefully next month we can dispense with wearing at least one layer of polyprop / merino, but in the meantime – keep warm – eat often – watch your step – tell stories – have fun out there!

Stu McHugh

Membership Report

Change of address

Gill Latimer 351 4346 2/9 Bryndwr Road, Fendalton, Chch 8052

Resignation

Maureen Floyd 388 3276 2/485 Pages Road, Bexley, Chch 8061

Maureen was one of our early members and has been in the club for 29 years. There are only 8 current members who have been in the club for longer than she has. We wish her well in her retirement from tramping.

Membership

We have 438 paid members, 255 women and 183 men. Currently 15 people have registered to do their overnight trips.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Heather Fear who has been appointed District Governor for Rotary International for a district that includes the whole northern part of the South Island. She is only the second woman to receive an appointment like this.

Fay Jackson

DAY TRIP PROGRAM

The tramps are listed in order of difficulty, with the easiest first, then moderate, then harder. If you are unsure of a tramp please check with the tramp leader.

NQ means that this tramp is not a qualifying tramp for prospective new members.
All other day tramps are qualifying tramps

Please note : It is club policy that these day tramps and the tramping programmes detailed in the newsletter are for members only.

Also **times given are indicative only** and do not include car travel to and from the tramp.

CANCELLATIONS

Listen to

NewstalkZB 1098

after 7am.

TRAMP PLANNERS

Note — Please forward your draft list to the Club Captain by the 20th of each month

Saturday		Colin Garthwaite	360 3770
Wednesday	Veterans	Jane Gimpl	382 4075
	Middle	Heather Spence	337 1690
		Joan Cornish	376 5146
		Clive Morriss	358 2753
		Cathie Graves	339 0881
	Beverley Ruddick	337 3390	
	Hard	Diana Kirpensteijn	332 7534
Sunday	Easier	Mary Brinsdon	366 9119
		Carolina Kol	03 3127970
	Middle	Steve Dakin	329 6695
		Will Teeuwen:	332 8236
	Hard	to be appointed	

Reminders to Tramp Leaders**TO CANCEL A DAY TRAMP**

Phone Newstalk ZB
phone (03) 340 1098—for all trips—before 6.45am,
and state the destination. Our club code is 47.

LOCATOR BEACONS.

Collect and carry these. **Please note** — they are collected from the Shell Petrol Stations at Belfast or Yaldhurst, or at Princess Margaret Hospital - at front vestibule desk. And for any private use of these beacons please contact the Club Captain to arrange.

AT THE END OF THE TRAMP.

Please send list of participants and numbers to Mary Brinsdon at 33 Hewitts Rd, Chch 8014, or brinsdon@clear.net.nz

WEDNESDAY TRAMPS

SEPTEMBER 2

Halswell Quarry**NQ**

Cost : nil

Walk on tracks in and around the quarry.

Depart : Main carpark, Halswell Quarry at 10.00am

Time : 3 - 4 hrs

Leader : Maureen Whiting 338 8840

Whaka Terrace, CRW and beyond

Cost : nil

To top of Whaka Tce up walk way and then steady climb to CRW and beyond.

Grade : 2-3

Depart : Leave cars at bottom of Whaka Tce around the corner from Centaurus Rd for 8.30am start

Time : 4- 5 hrs

Leader : Alison Chambers 332 9755

N 07 Mt Grey 934m with a twist

Cost : \$13 Map M34

Round trip from Lake Janet. Climb to top then down Red Beech track & halfway up again on Mt Grey track to bypass track & back to cars.

Grade : 3+

Depart : Belfast Hotel carpark at 8.30am. Meet Ray at Amberley.

Time : 6-7 hrs

Leader : Ray Twist 03 310 7520 & Diana Kirpensteijn

SEPTEMBER 9

Morgans Track**NQ**

Cost : nil

Morgans Track and return via Bridle Path Road.

Depart : Bridle Path Track carpark nr gondola at 10am

Time : 3 - 3.5 hrs

Leader : Ian Hunter 332 3521

Ladbrooks Hill**1030mNW07**

Cost : \$13

Start just past Raspberry Gully on Lees Valley Rd at 500m followed by a steady climb on a formed track to summit. Most of track is through beech forest. Return by same route. Good views of Ashley River and Lees Valley

Grade : 2 for formed track to summit.

Grade 3 option Bush route to meet track near summit.

Depart : Belfast Hotel carpark at 8.30am

Time : 4 hrs

Leader :Howard Harvey 342 9377

Sign of the Kiwi to end CRW south

Cost : \$ 2

Follow CRW along the tops on one side & back on other side. Great views

Grade : 2

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 8.30am

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : to be elected on the day. Send names to Mary Brindson.

W24 Mt Torlesse

Cost : \$13 Map L34/L35

Walk up Kowhai River to Hut then cross stream & up steep ridge to summit. Ice axe & crampons req'd

Grade : 4

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.00am

Time : 7 hrs

Leader : Paul Knox 339 2997




 SEPTEMBER 16
Allandale to Sandy Bay NQ

Cost : \$2

This is a very pleasant walk with great harbour views.

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 9.30am

Time : 3 - 3.5 hrs

Leader : Heather Spence 337 1690

Co leader : Ann Farrant 344 5300

Balancing Rock BP50

Cost : \$10

Follow farm tracks with steady climb to ridge at approx 500m. Good views over Little River and Okuti Valley and out to Lake Forsyth. Includes some bush on an old dairy farm.

Grade : 3

Depart : carpark opp PMH (river west) 8.30am

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : Bruce Stanton 338 1909

PH02 Taylors Mistake- Godley Heads on Heritage Trail

Cost : nil

Take Heritage Trail to Taylors Mistake then track to Godley Heads for lunch at tunnels, then return down Eastern track back to Sumner. A couple of steep sections taken slowly.

Grade : 3+

Depart : Cnr Wiggins & Heberden St, Sumner at 8.30am

Time : 6 hrs

Leader : Gavin Hampton 343 1291

SEPTEMBER 23

Parklands Travis Wetlands NQ

Cost : nil

Walking in the Queenspark, Parklands area and Travis Swamp.

Depart : Carpark nr entrance to Bottle Lake Forest at end of Bower Ave at 10.00am

Time : 4 hrs

Leader : Jane Gimpl 382 4075

Combined middle & hard groups**Lagoon Saddle W79**

Cost : \$23

From carpark at Cora Lynn Station climb to Lagoon Saddle by the track on the Nth side of Mt Bruce. Faster group will continue SW on easy tussock with a short rock ridge to Mid Hill 1831m for extensive views of the Waimak River, Black Range and attractive tarns.

Grade : 3 with grade 4 option

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8am Note early start

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : Paul and Sandra Knox 339 2997

Robin and Judy atop Gibraltar Rock, August 19
—photo Cathie Graves



OFTC

SEPTEMBER 30

Westmorland NQ

Cost : nil

Exploring tracks and byways on Westmorland hill.

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 10.00am

Time : 3 -3.5 hrs

Leader : Maree Bothwell 382 5123hrs

PMH to Sign of Kiwi and beyond PH43

Cost : nil

From carpark opposite Princess Margaret Hosp, following back tracks and short cuts up onto the hills to the Kiwi. Intimate views of the homes of hill dwellers.

Grade : 3

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 8.30am

Time : 4 hrs

Leader : Clive Morriss 358 2753

PH 51 Mt Pleasant from Bridle Path

Cost : nil

From Bridle Path take Kahukura Track up to Castle Rock then along CRW to Mt Pleasant. Return via John Brittan Reserve and Heathcote Quarry Walkway to cars.

Grade : 2.5

Depart : Bridle Path carpark, Heathcote at 8.30am

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : Alex & Marj Pollock 389 4059

SUNDAY TRAMPS

SEPTEMBER 6

Combined tramp for Sunday Vets and Sunday Easier Group. There are several opportunities to leave the tramp at any stage; all easy flat walking.**Park and River C 27**

Cost : Nil

Flat walk with a botanical twist, through any/all of Milbrook Reserve, Hagley Park, Mona Vale and Botanic Gardens

Grade : NQ

Depart : Milbrook Reserve entrance, beside 2A Helmores Lane, Nth Hagley Park at 9.00 am

Time : 4 ½ hrs

Leader : Russell Moffitt Ph 384-1979

Peak Hill, Lake Coleridge W 42

Cost : \$19 + \$5 for afternoon tea. Map K35

Initial approach over private land on to South slopes. Follow poled route up East ridge to summit at 1240 m. Afterwards afternoon tea will be served at the Miller homestead.

Grade : 2-3

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.30am

Trampers leaving from Chch pse collect beacon from Shell Yaldhurst. Meet Sandi at the top of the zig zag, the road that turns onto or going to Lake Coleridge.

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : Sandi Leith 03-302 4797/021 263 5390

Mid Hill W79

Cost : \$22

From carpark at Cora Lynn Station, climb to Lagoon saddle by the track on the north side of Mt Bruce, then continue SW on easy tussock with a short rock ridge to Mid Hill (1831) for extensive views of the Waimakariri R, Black Ra and attractive tarns

Grade : 4

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.00am

Time : 6 hrs

Leader Robin Palmer 357 1143

SEPTEMBER 13

River Walk – Latters Track C 16

Cost : Nil

From PMH follow the Heathcote River Track to Hollis Ave, through new subdivision to Latters Spur Track, Victoria Park & Thompson Memorial. Return via Kiwi and Harry Ell Track

Grade : 1

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 9.00 am

Time : 4 – 5 hrs

Leader : Mary Brinsdon Ph 366-9119

Whaka Terrace Valley

Cost : nil

From Whaka Tce up steps and steady climb to crater walkway and tracks around Sugarloaf and beyond.

Grade : 2-3

Depart : From Whaka Tce at 8.30am

Time : 4+ hrs

Leader : Alison Chambers 332 9755

W21 Mt Cloudsley

Cost : \$14

Climb up ridge from carpark near Castle hill village. Ice axe & crampons required.

Grade : 4

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel Carpark at 8.00am

Time : 6 hrs

Leader : Neil Helson 03 318 7335, Co-leader: Ian Fussell 358 3724 (to collect beacon)

SEPTEMBER 20

Capt Thomas Track, CRW & Richmond Hill PH 55

Cost : \$ Nil

Up Capt Thomas Track & then to Summit Walkway. Up spur to the gun emplacement and Mt Pleasant. Return via Richmond Hill farm track.

Grade : 1

Depart : Sumner Surf Club carpark at 9.00 am

Time : 4 – 5 hrs

Leader : Joan Stevenson Ph 388-0227

**SW10 Combined Middle & Top Group
Mt Somers Walkway, South Face Route**

Cost : \$21

Depending on numbers one group start from Woolshed Creek carpark and other from Stavely. Meet in the middle for lunch and swap car keys. Steep climb at both ends for an 800m altitude gain, then undulating middle section before descent to cars.

Grade : 3-4

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.00am

Time : 6 hrs

Leader : Steve Dakin 03 692 2931

Co-leader: Ian Fussell 358 3724

2009 Questionnaire

Thank you to the members who took the time to respond to the questionnaire when you renewed your membership subscription for the year.

The response indicated that in many areas of the club we have no shortage of willing helpers. Your name and contact phone number has been passed on to the co-ordinator of each particular area.

Please contact Karyn Brookes if you would like to know who to speak to about your offer of help. (Phone: 354 0113 or karynbrookes@xtra.co.nz)

SEPTEMBER 27

Governors Bay to Living Springs PH 44

Cost : \$ 2

Start from Governors Bay carpark taking Faulkners & other tracks to Living Springs, then return by Coastal Walkway

Grade : 1

Depart : Carpark opp PMH (river west) at 9.00 am

Time : 5 hrs

Leader : Gabrielle Bolt Ph 339-8084

Mount Pearce Reserve BP 52

Cost : \$13 Map N36,N37

Follow farm tracks from the Summit Road through the reserve and on to ridge & summit (737). Descend via Pigeon Bay Peak. Good views all round.

Grade : 2

Depart : Carpark opposite PMH West at 8.30am

Time : 4-5 hrs

Leader : Bruce Stanton 338 1909

Mt Thomas/Bob's Camp N61

Cost : \$9

Climb via No 2 track through bush to top of ridge then turn left and travel along ridge on track passing through bush and clearings to Bob's camp for lunch. Return same way.

Grade : 4

Depart : Belfast Hotel carpark at 8.00am

Time : 6-7hrs

Leader : Angus Macdonald 349 7109

SATURDAY TRAMP

SEPTEMBER 26

W08 Bealey Spur Map K34

Cost : \$ 24

Gradual climb through beech forest and open tussock with tarns to restored musterers hut. Climb higher up ridge for great views & lunch spot.

Grade :3

Depart : Yaldhurst Hotel carpark at 8.00am

Time : 6 hrs

Leader : Colin Garthwaite 03 360 3770



Bealey Spur, August 19—Photo Neil Helson



Base Camp & Backpacking Programme 2009—2010

Month	Venue	Days	Grade	Leader
Sept 7-11	Heaphy Track. Full up. Stand-by names only	5 days	Moderate	John Wisker 960 8323
Late Oct/ Early Nov	Kepler Track. Early season. High, snow, great views. \$40/hut. Dates to be fixed with DOC.	3 nights	Moderate	Jack Watt 355 3493
Mid Nov	Fallen Mountain and other peaks (Upper Edwards Valley)	4 days	Mod/hard	Gerry Burgess 351 9883
Nov 23-29	Rees Dart Track, with optional side trip to Cascade Saddle	5 days	Mod/hard	Ian Fussell 358 3724
Dec 5-7	Lewis Pass area. Climb Travers Peak (1724m) then down Boucher Stream to Anne Hut. Next day up Henry River to saddle. Climb Mt Zampa (1710m), along tops to above Ada Hut and down. Next day out. One night option going out from saddle via Cannibal Gorge.	2 nights	Mod/hard	Angus Macdonald 349 7109
Jan 11-13	Lees Valley - Youngman hut to Ant hut to Tarn hut.	3 nights	Hard	Neil Climo 312 4822
Jan 18-22	Heaphy Track. \$25/night. Names ASAP	5 days	Moderate	Alison Chambers 332 9755
Early Feb	Theatre Flat (Rockburn Valley). Options include Park Pass	3-4 days tenting	Mod/hard	Gerry Burgess 351 9883
Feb 5-7	Moa Saddle. Cross Wilberforce to Moa Hut. Up North Stream to Moa Saddle and down to Unknown Hut. Via Griffiths Stream /Wilberforce to cars with a few river crossings. Date weather dependent.	3-4days	Moderate	Stu McHugh 323 6333
Feb 18-22	Hollyford Track. Fly in to Martins Bay or Big Bay. Walk out. Numbers limited.	5 days	Moderate	Sandi Leith 03 302 4797 Co-Leader Beris Whelan 358 5873
Late Feb- Early Mar	North Huxley, Brodrick Pass, South Huxley, pass to South Temple. (date depends on weather)	5 days tenting	Hard	Diana Kirpensteijn 332 7534
Mar 20-24	Camp Sutton Base Camp near Middlemarch. \$20/night. Optional cycling Central Rail Trail Mar 16-20	4 nights	Easy/mod	Howard Harvey 342 9377
March: Date later	Five Passes, anti-clockwise. Details later.	5/6 days tenting	Hard	Angus Macdonald 349 7109
End Mar	Lake Clearwater Base Camp. Explore new Hakatere Conservation Park. Many options from climbing to fishing. Accom in bach or tents.	4 days Incl travel	Various	Robin Mears 355 8676
April 10-17	St Arnaud Base Camp. Red Deer Lodge, well-equipped comfortable. Half day and full day tramp options. Also options for longer trips using huts. Bookings from 01/09/09	8 days	Various	Warwick Scadden 351 9779 Co-leader Anne Dolan 332 8888
Mid April	Te Kahui Kaupeka (Mt D'Archaic) Conservation Park. Bush stream, Mesopotamia to head of Lake Tekapo or reverse. Part of proposed Te Araroa walking trail Cape Reinga to Bluff.	4-5 days Incl travel	Moderate	Robin Mears 355 8676 Co-Leader John Wisker 960 8323
To be decided	Waiuta Lodge (Reefton) Base Camp Optional overnigher to Big River	5 days	Easy/mod	Peter Mears 352 7282
Late April Early May	Motatapu Track. Lake Wanaka to Macetown and Arrowtown. Steep tussock country.	4 days	Mod/hard	John Wisker 960 8323

Backpacking Tramps Confirmation System

Due to members withdrawing from backpacking tramps at late stages the Committee decided the following conditions will apply :

- That a deposit of \$25 be paid to the leader no later than 3 months prior to departure if advertised more than 3 months ahead, otherwise at the time of booking.
- The deposit will be non-refundable except in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the leader.
- Although the confirmation date will be advertised the actual tramp date will remain sufficiently flexible to allow changes to be made on account of the weather etc.

Learning basic snow craft at Foggy Peak (continued from Page 1)



Lunch in a snow hole—photo Neil Helson.



Having a go at self arresting—photo Neil Helson.



The summit of Foggy Peak—photo Rod Lewis.



Come into my igloo—photo Colin Garthwaite.



Some tuition on how to use crampons—photo Wendy Hughes.



The team after building a snow shelter—photo Neil Helson.





Some of the 36 at Gowan Hill Farm, July 29
—photo Cathie Graves



Above: Snap! Halswell Quarry—Bellbird, July 22—
photo Cathie Graves



Left: Attempting to climb Mount Cheeseman (or was it Mount Izard?), July 29—photo Neil Helson



Red Hill, July 26—photo Neil Helson



Lyndon Saddle, July 25—photo Wendy Hughes

Your OFTC Committee :

Chairman:	Warwick Scadden	351 9779	scaddens@xtra.co.nz
Vice-Chairman:	Gavin Hampton	343 1291	salgav@xtra.co.nz
Secretary:	Karyn Brookes	354 0113	karynbrookes@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer:	Peter Street	352 5526	PeterStreet@paradise.net.nz
Club Captain:	Stu McHugh	323 6333	samchugh@clear.net.nz
Editor & Web:	Liz Griffiths	351 4501	lizgriffiths@clear.net.nz
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	Bev Creighton	382 1881	bevcreighton@xtra.co.nz
	Ian Fussell	358 3724	fussei@clear.net.nz
	Colin Garthwaite	360 3770	colmarin@iconz.co.nz
	Colin Mackie	332 4587	mackiecg@xtra.co.nz

Ex Officio

Health & Safety:	Mary Miller		
D.O.C. Liaison:	Ted Shields	384 3403	dls@paradise.net.nz
Welfare	Everyone		

Navigation course

McLeans Island
Bike track entrance
Wed October 14
8am

Map reading, grid co-ordinates, use of a compass. Brush up your skills or learn for the first time. Robin Fear, Ian Fussell and Stu McHugh will ensure you have a fun learning day and guarantee that even if you do get lost that they will find you before dark!

Diary this now