

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 2014
JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2015***

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.



Happy Winter Trampers on Leith Hill

From Your Committee

Chairperson	Tere L	Tel. 981 6431
Club Captain	Mike R	Tel. 337 5944
Secretary	Sandra F	Tel. 354 9521
Treasurer	Dianna S	Tel. 981 1697
Newsletter	Dennis W	Tel. 359 1211
Website	Heather H	Tel. 332 6281
Members Contact	Sandra F	Tel. 354 9521
Committee Members: Neal S, Michael B		

From your Committee

Greetings Trampers

Well here is my first report as Chair of the Hagley Tramping Club. It has been a steep learning curve as I have discovered what my new job entails. Previous Chairs I have known Dennis, Sandra and Bill have made it look so effortless but I have discovered that they are like swans (all calm and serene above water and paddling like the blazes underneath). With the AGM delivering a complete new set of roles for most of the officers there were a lot of administrative tasks to sort and reassign and bank access to reshuffle and I have greatly appreciated the time, support and coaching which club members have given. Particularly I would like to mention Dianna our new treasurer who as a busy working Mum is making a big sacrifice to take on an unfamiliar and daunting role.

As most of you will be aware our website was hacked a couple of months back and completely overwritten with a political tirade, I am baffled why anyone would think that causing us an immense amount of frustration would make us look kindly on their cause. Heather with her new position of webmaster only days old has done a lot of work to get a workable interim website back up twice and I would ask you all to be patient with the current limited format while Heather does what amounts to a complete rebuild of the site at programming level to ensure that it is secure against future attacks. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Kevin for all the time and support he has given helping to sort this out.

The committee has met a couple of times since the AGM and apart from the admin mentioned above and the website issues, we have looked at the replacement of the PLB's which are due for new batteries next year, the feeling is that replacement with more modern units is more economical than new batteries so we have appointed a couple of members to explore options so we

are ready when the time comes. We are also working through a health and safety policy for the club the drafts of which we expect to have ready for members to view early next year.

The biggest issue which is before the committee however is the slowly dwindling membership numbers in the club. A lot of discussion has taken place and many schemes have been proposed however I would like to take this opportunity to air my view from the Chair.

In discussion with members it has become clear to me that our club has some very unique attributes which give us our own special character, the most obvious of which is the sense of family and inclusiveness which our small size facilitates. The number of members who belong to other clubs as well as HTC highlights the fact that while our limited program does not provide the variety of trips the big clubs can offer we still have something quite precious to share. I would therefore encourage all of us to be positive towards one another at every opportunity and make every effort to get alongside all club members when we can, support social events if you can and step out of your comfort zone to go on trips at all the levels in the club you can manage.

I do not believe that the club would be well served by a push to recruit large numbers of new members just to become a disconnected faceless mass which is a common theme I hear about the bigger local clubs; instead let's focus on word of mouth to keep our numbers up by encouraging those members we already have to feel wanted and included while making HTC such a nice place to be that we just want to share it with everyone else.

Be aware however of the danger of becoming inward-focused and unwelcoming towards new members. As our own bonds with close friends in the club strengthen it, is easy for our familiarity and shared experience to become a barrier when those outside our own "click" are present. Remember, no one owns the club but we all have a stake in it; the difference between participation and commitment is like bacon and eggs, the chicken is participating but the pig is committed.

Best Regards and hope to see you all on the trail soon

Tere

FMC Photo Competition

In March we will hold a competition to select photo's to enter in the FMC's annual photo competition.

Categories are:

- Outdoor landscapes (no people)
- Hut or camp life
- Above the bushline
- Below the bushline
- Native flora and fauna (no people)
- Historic (Identifiably pre 1980 and feature some aspect of club life)

Main Criteria

- Must feature new Zealand subjects, not overseas
- Be taken by a club member since 1 Jan 2013 (except historic).
- No digital manipulation except tonal or exposure adjustments, cropping, sharpening or panorama stitching.

For further Information refer www.fmc.org.nz/photo-competition.

Entries can be emailed to web@hagleytrampingclub.net.nz

The photos will be displayed on the club's website.

Further information about judging and closing date (early March) will be displayed on the website and distributed via email in the New Year.

Club Membership

NOW DUE for 1 April 2015 financial year

Our annual membership subscription is \$25 single or \$30 family.

Calendar of Trips and Social Events

Sunday 19 October

Ellesmere Bike Ride

Ride bikers ride!! Dennis will lead an easy back roads bike trip probably to Coes Ford via Greenpark and return.

Fine weather trip only. If in doubt, ring Dennis.

Leader Dennis Ph 359 1211

Easy biking

No cost

Meet Tai Tapu School with your bike at 9.30am.

Wednesday 22 October at 6.30pm

Joyful Restaurant Social Night

Bring your family and friends for an evening at the Joyful Restaurant.

102 Riccarton Road, parking at the rear of the building.

Meeting up at 6.30pm.

Please consider that a set menu may be chosen (approx \$ 32.00 per person).

Book with Sandra by Monday 20th October.

Saturday 25 to Monday 27 October

Labour Weekend

Robinson River & Lake Christabel

Hut & Rough Creek

One of the great tramps in the Lewis Pass area.

Starting at the south end of Palmers Road and coming out on the Lewis Highway.

A long trip with some hard climbs.

There may be additional cost for the car shuffle – to be advised.

Mike R Ph 337 5944

Moderate - Hard Transport \$50

Please book with Mike by Sunday 19th October

!NOTE! The following trip is on Saturday.

Saturday 1 November

Bealey Spur

A really enjoyable steady ridge climb (but easy gradient) on the south side of the Waimakariri River adjacent to Arthur's Pass National Park. We will have lunch at the hut with an option to go to the high point of the ridge for the fast & fit.

Return the same way.

Leader Neal S Ph 343 6980

Easy-Moderate

Transport: \$25

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30 am

Sunday 9 November**Upper Otira Valley**

A steady climb up the valley from the top of Arthur's Pass and return the same way. A unique valley with high alpine vegetation right under Mt Rolleston.

About 5-6 hours return.

Leader Tere. Ph 981 6431

Easy-Moderate

Transport \$35

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00 am

***Friday 14 to Sunday 16 November
Show Weekend**

**Lake Sumner Forest Park Round
Trip**

*This trip is departing Christchurch on Thursday pm. Please ring Neal for details. Lake Sumner circuit. Starts at Sisters car park goes past Gabriel hut, around the lake, over the Kiwi saddle and down to Hope-kiwi hut. Then over to 3 Mile Stream hut, and McMillan saddle back to the top of Lake Sumner to walk out to Loch Katrine.

Leader Neal Ph 343 6980

Moderate

Transport \$40

Please book with Neal by Sunday 9 November

Wednesday 19 November at 7.30 pm

Committee Meeting

Committee Meeting at Sandra's.

Sunday 23 November**Rakaia Walkway**

We drive to the Rakaia Gorge Bridge and leave the cars. The walkway goes up the north side of the Rakaia River with a loop track towards the end.

Great views of the river and mountains.

Leader Michael B Ph 358 3081

Easy

Transport \$15

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30 am

Wednesday 26 November at 7.30pm

Abberley Cresc Hall.

A quiz night with Quiz Master Tere. General knowledge but with tramping questions too. Teams to be decided on the night.

Please bring some Xmas supper to share.

All welcome!

Sunday 30 November**Ryde Falls, Oxford Forest**

Drive to View Hill car park. A great walk through ferns and forest at a gentle pace to picturesque waterfall for lunch. Return the same way. Bring sunblock and insect repellent as bugs can be active this time of year.

Leader Sandra F Ph 354 9521

Easy

Transport \$15

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8 am

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 December**Severn Hut, Molesworth Station**

Severn hut is a new 6 bunk hut on Molesworth. We will drive passed Lake Tennyson and over Island Saddle to Lake Sedgemere. The tramp is 20 km to the hut in wide open valleys. Return the same way. We may drive up Friday night.

Map BS25 or N30

Leaders Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277

Moderate

Transport \$40

Please book with Bill & Wendy by Sunday 30 November

Saturday 13 December at 5.00 pm**Xmas Social Function**

The Club Christmas party is at Heather & Kevin's home in Somerfield.

Drinks at 5pm and dinner about 6.30pm. BYO drinks, meat for the BBQ & something to share. (E.g. Salad, dessert, or nibbles)

Partners very welcome & don't forget a Secret Santa gift (\$5-\$10).

Theme Hippy Christmas: Dress up as a Hippy or just come as you are!

Contact Heather Ph 332 6281 for address details.

Sunday 14 December**Bridle Path & Rapaki Track**

Walk up to the Summit Rd and parallel to the road to check out two tracks I helped to form. Walk to Rapaki Track and down. If numbers are good, will arrange car pool or walk from Rapaki to Bridle path car park.

Leader Michael B Ph 358 3081

Easy

Transport NA

Meet at the Bridle Path car park next to the Gondola at 9.00am

Monday 5 to Saturday 10 January**Poulter River & Lake Minchin**

A trip into Arthur's Pass exploring Poulter River valley and Lake Minchin.

Leader Neal Ph 343 6980

Moderate

Transport \$25

Please book with Neal by Sunday 21 December

Sunday 11 January 2015**Castle Hill**

An easy walk and climb though the Castle Hill limestone formations. Lunch on the high point 'Castle Hill' (920m) overlooking Castle Hill Village. Good views all round.

Leader Dennis Ph 359 1211

Easy

Transport \$20

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.30 am

Sunday 18 January**Mt Vulcan (412m)**

Mt Vulcan via Motunau mystery route. Come prepared for dry weather (bring water), beach walking, seascapes, farmland traverses, cliff top negotiation and magnificent coastal panoramas. Post walk refreshments at Glenlock.

Leader Glenda F Ph 03 314 3365

Easy

Transport \$20

Please book with Glenda by Thursday 14 January so that transport can be arranged. Depart from Christchurch at 8.00am.

Wednesday 21 January 7.30 pm**Committee Meeting**

Committee Meeting at Tere's.

Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 January**Hawdon River, Arthurs Pass**

A camping and tramping trip in the vicinity of the Hawdon River & Andrews Stream. Plan is a short tramp on Saturday morning to a nice spot to camp. Saturday afternoon and Sunday day tramps. Tents required.

Leaders Sandra Ph 354 9521 &
Dennis Ph 359 1211

Easy (But carrying tent)

Transport \$25

Please book with Sandra by Sunday 18 January

Wednesday 28 January at 6.00pm**Club Picnic – Abberley Cresc Park**

Abberley Cresc Park, 6pm.

Bring Your Own food, drinks, chairs and outdoor games.

Families welcome. If wet we will be in the Hall.

Sunday 01 February**Avoca Homestead to Broken River Hut**

From the Avoca Homestead it's a river bed tramp with multiple river crossings all the way to Broken River Hut. I am investigating a return via the old mine tramway which could involve a short sharp climb. 5-6 hours. An interesting tramp in an historic area with unusual geology you won't see anywhere else in Canterbury. [It is expected the river will be quite low at this time of year.]

Leader Tere Ph 981 6431

Easy-Moderate

Transport \$35

Depart from Yaldhurst Hotel car park at 8.00 am

Friday 6 to Sunday 8 February**Waitangi Weekend****Boo Boo Hut & Pinnacle Biv****West Coast**

Boo Boo Hut is located behind Hokitika, in the rata belt which should be in flower. The track crosses the stunning Whakarira Gorge. On the middle day we will visit Pinnacle Biv and return the same way. Map BV19

Leaders Bill & Wendy Ph 354 2277

Moderate

Transport \$45

Please book with Bill & Wendy by Sunday 01 Feb

Sunday 15 February**Mt Bealey to Avalanche Peak**

A climb and long ridge traverse in Arthur's Pass. A very long day.

Leader Mike R Ph 337 5944

Hard

Transport \$30

Please book with Mike by Sunday 8th February as this trip may start Saturday with a night in Arthur's Pass.

Wednesday 18 February at 7.00pm

Trip Planning Meeting

Trip Planning Meeting at Heather's.

Saturday 21 to Sunday 22 February**Sawcut Gorge & Isolation Hut**

Sawcut Gorge is on the Waima River between Kaikoura and Blenheim. Tramp through spectacular limestone gorge (mostly in the river) and onto 6 bunk (1 ticket) hut. A popular destination, tents advised. Return the same way. 3-4 hours tramping each way.

A three hour drive to get to the Waima River so early departure at 7.00am.

Leader Tere Ph 981 6431

Easy

Transport \$50

Please book with Tere by Sunday 15 Feb

Wednesday 25 February at 7.30pm

Talk on Norway & Serbia

Club member Vesna has promised an interesting and illustrated talk on her recent travels in Norway and Serbia.

To be held at Vesna's home in Wigram.

Please ring Vesna Ph 942 6955 for address.

Sunday 01 March

Mystery Lake – Ashburton Lakes

This circuit starts from the Potts River Bridge past Lake Clearwater. After following above the river across a broad glacial moraine, the track climbs gradually to Mystery Lake, at the foot of the Dogs Range (all up a gentle 550m climb). From here, the track follows along the base of the range returning to the start past Lake Clearwater. An alternative option would be to climb 300m up onto the Potts Range behind Mystery Lake.

Leader Heather Ph 332 6281

Easy-Moderate

Transport \$30

Depart from Z Service Station in Templeton at 8.00am

Wednesday 04 March at 7.30 pm

Committee Meeting

Committee Meeting at Dennis's

Saturday 07 & Sunday 08 March

Doubtless Hut, Lake Sumner Forest Park

Accessed from the Lewis Pass highway, an easy day tramp up the Doubtful River Valley to stay at the Doubtless Hut one night and return the same way. Six bunk, one ticket hut.

Leader Neal Ph 343 6980

Easy

Transport \$30

Please book with Neal by Sunday 01 March

Trip Reports

Greta Explorer - Glenlock Winter Basecamp 28-29 June

We lived up to the social, tramping and explorer aspects of this trip admirably. Only one of the pre-planned options came off as true (the beach walk). Even the winter aspect didn't quite live up to winter - with glorious weather for both days. 12 of us met at the Greta / Scargill turn off after a leisurely departure from Chch and stocking up with supplies at the Amberley Farmers market. From there we headed in convoy to Foxdown Rd off the Waikari/ Scargill inland road to begin our trek up Mt Alexander (748m). The route being a steady (but not steep) incline up farm tracks which had been clearly mapped out for us by the land owner.

It was encouraging to find landowners who are happy to have trampers on their land to enjoy the magnificent views around. In this case all he asked for was a koha donation to go to local charities.

A brisk cool breeze saw us seek the shelter of the stone stockyards for an early morning tea. Whilst thoroughly enjoying the views of the beautifully groomed fields and the distant vistas that opened up as we gained height. On the top and wow! Wonderful views across to Waikari, the Hurunui river and Balmoral forest with only a few snowy peaks appearing in the distance. Real winter had yet to arrive.

Our route back took us in a loop seeing different aspects of the farm and views and magnificent lighting effects as the sun got lower. A really great day out.

Back to Glenlock for a "cuppa and a wee lie down" before nibbles and aperitifs. Lovely to come back to the luxury of the smell of the crock pot bubbling away, a lounge and comfy seating and especially a "vibrating massage chair". The facial expressions, oohs and aahs and squeals as the rollers hit sore spots were a great source of amusement for those still awaiting their turn. Several folk sneaked around for a second and third try. An acquisition highly recommended for all tramping huts (though power supplies might be a problem).

Lighting problems for the outdoor BBQ resolved (there was a cook and a lamp holder) and we were more than well fed with amazing food from shared pot luck. The calm evening allowed us to light the burn pile (brush saved up from many tree falls this summer) so those with pyromaniac tendencies could throw branches on the bonfire to their hearts content. Only a few found room for bonfire toasted marshmallows after such a feast, while others just enjoyed sitting by the fire watching the stars.

Bedding arrangements were sorted out by some creative furniture relocation, 4 scored a bedroom, 2 in the campervan and the rest on the lounge floor.

Sunday dawned clear skied, and Chef Tere delighted us with a cooked breakfast of bacon and eggs, washed down with coffee and hot honey, cinnamon drink. Two of the party headed homeward while the rest of us headed towards Motunau. At Caringa farm gate we headed across farm land, crossed the creek (some with wet feet and some by creative tree scrambling) and up to the predominant limestone ridge to the left. Here we explored the tomos, and amazing limestone bluffs with trees hanging on in precarious positions, and were very surprised to see kowhai trees in flower (didn't they know its winter?) Our climb rewarded us with magnificent views across Pegasus Bay it's no wonder Captain Cook mistook Banks Peninsular for an island) and northwards towards Nape Nape, as well as inland towards yesterday's vistas Thank you once again to the Caringa land owner for granting us access to his land. It was greatly appreciated. 3 hours saw us back at the cars and down to Motunau beach / river mouth for lunch.

Then came the third phase of our "tramping" options. A 2 hour walk southwards along the coast from Sandy Bay, easy walking enabled by the low tide. Beautiful beach sand interspersed by rock exploration ... have you ever seen such a variety of holey rocks? Evidence was everywhere of the recent stormy seas and wet weather with massive piles of driftwood pushed high against the cliffs and huge slips of of mud/ clay off the cliffs. Clear evidence that the east coast of NZ is receding! We turned around with the incoming tide before reaching the main concretion boulders but we had to save something up for another day. This was a most enjoyable finale to jolly good weekend of fine walking and fine company. Thank you one and all and to Lex for opening his home to HTC trampers while he "golfed and built the shed". Glenda

Participants were: Glenda, Bill, Wendy, Tere, Kathy, Claire, Sergey, Carol, Dianna, Dennis, Heather, Kevin

A BIG THANKS! From all of us Glenda, a really most enjoyable weekend. (Dennis)

Mount Guy

Well I don't think anyone except Bill & Wendy had much idea where Mt Guy was until this trip.

As the trip the weekend before didn't go ahead and the weekend before that was an 'Easy' there were in total 10 keen members (including three trampers new to the club) ready to stretch their legs.

Midweek the forecast was dismal for the day but as the day approached the forecast miraculously improved and Sunday was excellent tramping weather.

Mt Guy is on the north side of Lake Clearwater. We parked at the start of a 4WD track near the Village, walked around the lake and pretty much straight up Mt Guy a climb of 650m. The poled track started easy then got steeper and the rocks and shingle looser, until a couple of hundred meters from the top when it flattened. There was enough icy powder snow to throw a few balls at each other but that quickly gave way to appreciate the big all-round views – impossible (as always) to capture on camera. The corner of Lake Heron, Somers Range, Harper Range, southern alps of the Two Thumbs Range (all with lots of snow) and the Rangitata River.

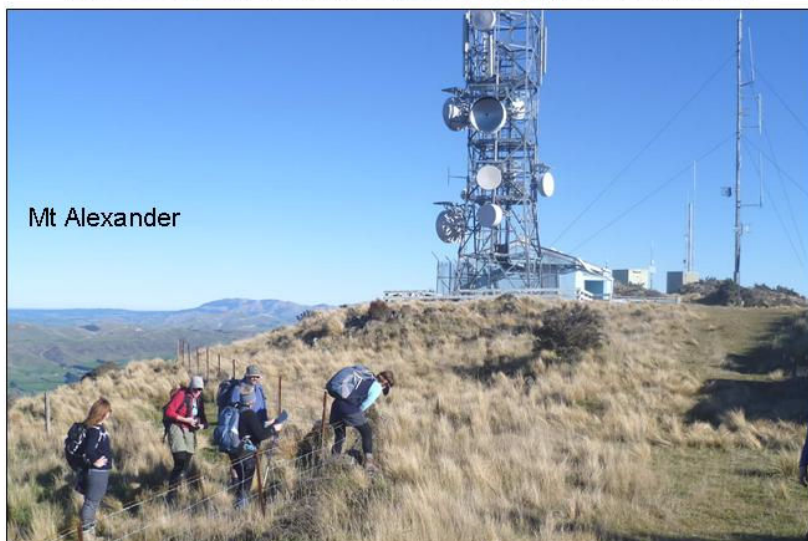
After lunch on the lee side of the summit out the wind, we headed NW along the ridge but quickly walked into a stronger and very cold wind off the Southern Alps. It was gloves, warm hats time and walk fast to keep warm. About a km along the ridge we turned onto a ridge heading NE with the wind on our backs. The plan at this stage was to drop into the valley north of the ridge and onto the Te Araroa Trail, but it wasn't apparent where there was an easy drop off. So in the end we just ploughed down a steep slope through rocks, thick bracken, tussocks and Spaniards – hot work – good time to keep very focussed on your footing. The fleet of foot made it down quickly but it took about 30 min more for the less experienced to catch up. On the valley floor it was hot, so we were soon in T-Shirts lying in the sun.

After everyone had caught their breath, drank and refuelled, we headed west up the valley on the Te Araroa Trail – fairly spread out until we regrouped at a sign which said 2.5 hrs to Lake Clearwater Village and we thought we were about an hour away! (At the same place a sign to Mystery Lake – another trip for the future.) Everyone was thinking – this is going to be a late night home! But with heads down and a concerted effort we were all back at the cars in 1.5hrs.

Thanks Bill & Wendy, this was one of our best days out of recent times. Fantastic scenery and geology in this area, we need some more trips into here!!

Dennis

Trip Pics



Greta Valley (Base Camp) Explorer



Arthur's
Pass
Base
Camp





Kowai River





Mt Guy (Ashburton Lakes)



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 Edgware 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

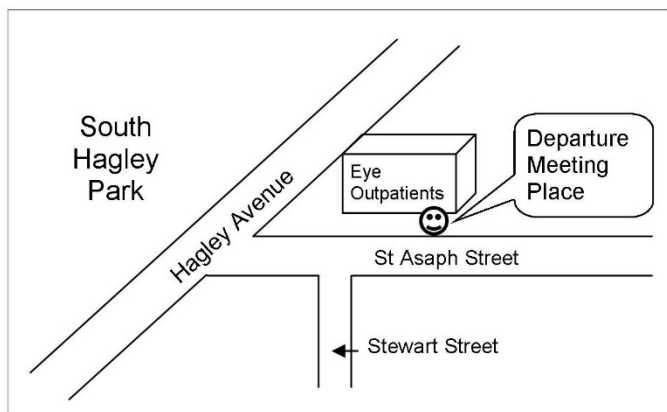
If you are planning to go on an overnight trip, please contact Trip Leader for information about food and equipment requirements.

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 03 354 9521; Dennis 03 359 1211; 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.