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**Contributors:** George Moon, Andre Le Lievre, Ellen Garrity, Russell Wenzlick, Sabrina McKenzie, Shawn Richards, Ruth McKie

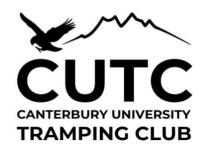
Editor: Ruth McKie

**Cover photo:** Arion Pons

Freshers '18, Woolshed Creek Hut

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# President's Update...

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Welcome all, to the Canterbury University Tramping Club! We've been around for a while now (since the 1930s), but our core purposes remain the same: (1) getting people into the outdoors (2) teaching people in the outdoors and (3) conserving things in the outdoors. In the last 80+ years, the club has also forged many friendships and even the odd marriage along the way as well!

As the year progresses, look out for some of our usual trips, including TWALK, Snowcraft, Bushcraft, Bush Ball, Cocktail Party and Refreshers. We try to make sure there's a trip that's suitable for everyone across the year—whether it's your first time in the backcountry or you've been doing it for years. And failing that, you can always run your own trip—talk to a friendly committee member if you want some advice on how to do it.

One piece of advice I'd like to pass on is despite the chaos that is university life, I've never regretted making the time to go on a trip, but I've always regretted missing out on them. If your study habits are as rubbish as mine are, chances are you'll spend the weekend procrastinating anyway—so just get out in the hills and put in the hard yards when you get back. For me, getting outdoors has always been a great way to refocus and consider some of the things you're working on, so it might even help!

This is also probably a good opportunity to point out as a club member you get discounts at retailers (see online for the details), cheap gear hire, and subsidised training opportunities—check out our website for all of the details!

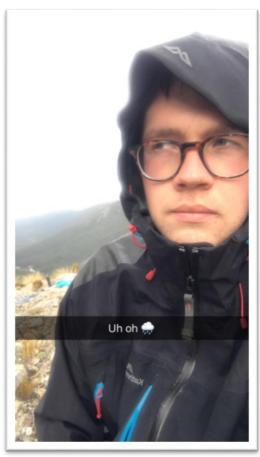
Also, we're always on the lookout for keen people to join the committee to ensure the tramping club keeps going strongly into the future—if you think this might be something you're interested in doing at some point, then come say hi and we can let you know what's involved.

For now though, get out there and make the most of the beautiful country we have on our doorstep!

Until next time-mā te wā!

### George CUTC President

(The guy who does all of the boring paperwork)



## Captain's Log...

Hey fabulous tramping friends!

We hope you all have some epic trips planned for Easter and the upcoming break – it will be well deserved after the hectic term we've just had! We'll be looking forward to hearing about what you get up to and seeing your photos featured on our Instagram.

The semester got off to a great start with Freshers, where 50 trampers headed to Woolshed Creek Hut via the Miners track and Rhyolite Ridge Track, and an advanced group coming in via Pinnacles hut and out over Mt Somers. The bold few in the group braved the waters of the creek for refreshing swim, and later on some tasty bevvies were enjoyed at the water caves! This introductory tramp was followed by a number of sweet overnight and day trips to other great Canterbury high-country locations, including Little Mount Peel, Mount Barrosa, and Woolshed Hill to name a few.

If you thought this term was awesome though... Buckle your brains in for next term kiddywinkles! For those of you lucky enough to score a spot on a team your first weekend back will be Twalk, our epic twenty-four-hour orienteering Rogaine event – when else do you get the chance to wander the hills in impractical costumes all night? For those who have more than 2 brain cells and are capable of sensible decisions (namely not entering Twalk...) Mathew will is looking for people to join the TWALK kitchen team, so if you're interested in helping out with that and maybe squeezing in a leg or two in between batches of muffins, get in touch. This is a great way to get involved if you missed out on a ticket to the main event.

Next weekend we turn down the pace but keep the buzz going as we launch into our next term of trips including Bushcraft. This is a great weekend and learn the basics of how to survive and thrive in the bush. Word is that there will also be a cocktail party at some point this semester, so dig out those suits and high heels and get ready to have a ball in the bush! That's the round up from us here in the Captain's seat, we will see you next term. Stay safe, stay warm and stay funky team.

Andre and Ellen
Your CUTC Captains





### **Enviro Activities...**

The first environmental trip this year started off with a bang! Our wetland planting day out in Oxford was the first tramping club trip to head off after the official sign ups. On the 25th of February, seven keen club members and I headed out to a wetland area near Oxford to assist in native shrub planting alongside Working Waters Trust and Forest & Bird.

Although on arrival we had to abandon our cars and walk the last 5 minutes due to a deep ford, cheers to Google Maps for taking us down the gnarly route, we were welcomed warmly by the team with spades and gloves! It was a very successful day planting over 250 native plants along the banks of the wetland. This was a very fulfilling task as this wetland in particular is an important spawning habitat for the threatened Canterbury mudfish. It was wonderful to learn a thing or two about the native shrubs and the importance of protecting our wetlands. Tinkering away planting trees and having some quality yarns in the sun made for an enjoyable first trip. We appreciate everyone who came along!

This year I have an ambition to run at least one environmental trip each term, four trips in total throughout the year. Each of these trips will compromise of either tree planting, track maintenance, wilding pine removal or pest control.

As trampers, the natural environment brings us all thrilling experiences, so it is wonderful for the tramping club to get involved and give back to the natural environment in some way!

We are looking forward to future environmental trips this year. The trips are free to attend, informative and enjoyable so I would highly encourage anyone to come along.

### Sabrina McKenzie **CUTC Environmental Officer**

TROG ENTRY: 01

Participants: Sabrina, Maxime, Isaura, Edoardo, Bettina, Angus, Jozef & Steven

Club Environmental Officer Sabrina, along with seven other CUTC-ers headed out near Oxford to help plant over 250 native shrubs in a wetland area—an important spawning habitat for the threatened Canterbury mudfish.



## #SafetyFirst

Health and Safety is all a bit PC and obtrusive, right? Unfortunately, it may take a serious incident to change your mind, but it's there to keep you safe and the fun times rollin'. DOC summarise what you should do in the outdoors pretty well with the outdoor safety code:

- Plan your trip
- Tell someone
- Check the weather
- Know your limits
- Take sufficient supplies

In addition to this, a wise old Englishman once told me of three risks that time and time again lead to injuries and casualties in the outdoors. These are:

Keeping to a schedule

Pleasing other people

and finally fear.

The poignant example of the Titanic teaches us this: It wasn't the iceberg which took over 1500 lives, (yes it was the final mechanical event) but a combination of: keeping to a schedule, to win the "Blue Ribbon" the fastest liner to cross the Atlantic, pleasing other people, the Captain was coaxed to keep going by the Directors of the White Star Line who were aboard, and finally, fear he didn't try to sail to the stationary freighter they could clearly see in the distance, which had stopped because of all the icebergs.

Before you know it, your flatmate will be complaining about ice on their windows and the snow season will arrive! And with it; avalanches. Believe it or not they pose a greater risk than your wintry flatmate, taking the lives of a few people in New Zealand a year. It's best to plan before you go by checking out the avalanche advisory bulletin for your area and consider the weather and your experience level. The advisory bulletin considers the aspect of the slope and elevation, so you can plan your trip out of the danger zones. Check out a mini-series that covers the basics called EPIC TV Avalanche Series or take an avalanche course with the MSC to get knowledge.

Just like your flat the outdoors can be cold year-round too, so if you're going high up or even in the valleys, the chance of avalanches is still high.

# Russell Wenzlick CUTC Safety Officer



Mountain Safety Council - Outdoor Safety Code

# Tramping in Winter...

Tramping in winter is different to summer, the pack becomes a bit heavier! Conditions can change so fast here in NZ, so it's crucial to be prepared for four seasons in one day. Bring the sunhat and sunblock but also the woolies and thermals. Sunblock and sunglasses are important if you are heading into the snow, as the reflection of the snow can blind you, making navigating difficult. Also make sure to be prepared with appropriate gear including helmet, ice axe, and crampons if there's any chance you will come across snow on your trip. It's always better to be over prepared, especially as temperatures drop overnight and snow conditions can vary at depending on the time of day. There will be less daylight hours too, so make sure to plan accordingly.



I like to bring lots of warm socks as you often get very cold feet traveling in snow or crossing rivers on those frosty mornings. Gaiters and water proofing your boots can help keep out snow and water keeping you dryer and warmer too. Another personal must, is to bring a stash of your favorite tea or hot chocolate brew to warm you up when arriving into camp. Cup of soup packets are also great to chuck on for a quick warm up meal to rehydrate while starting dinner.

Check out <a href="https://cutc.nz/information/going-tramping/">https://cutc.nz/information/going-tramping/</a> for recommended gear lists for day and overnight trips.

Stay warm and happy winter tramping!

Ruth McKie
CUTC Membership & Publicity Officer

### What is the Club Gear Locker?

The CUTC gear locker is an excellent resource exclusive to tramping club members. For a small hire fee and deposit, you can hire most of the gear you'll need to get going. Just come and see the friendly gear locker officers during the times mentioned on the website, or if you really can't make those times, a meeting time can be arranged. You can check out the website for a list of gear the locker has available too.

Remember the Gear Guys like tramping too and will not be impressed if you want gear on a Friday night. Make sure you have your club membership card and the full deposit and hire fee, or you won't be allowed to grab any gear.

Mathew Falloon & Abdul Hussein CUTC Gear Officers

# **Outdoor Gear Shops in Christchurch**

Sometimes it is hard to know where to buy gear from, below is a list of popular outdoor shops around Christchurch. With your CUTC membership card you can claim discounts at the following stores:

Cactus 10%, Bivouac Tower Junction 20%, Macpac (only on Macpac branded gear) 30%. Torpedo 7 also has a customer club you can join for free which gives you cheaper club prices on most gear.

# bivouac/outdoor

COMMITTED TO ADVENTUR

**Address** 

Unit 3, 81 Clarence Street Tower Junction

Christchurch 8011

Contact

Ph: (03) 341-8062

Email: <a href="mailto:tower@bivouac.co.nz">tower@bivouac.co.nz</a>
Web: <a href="mailto:www.bivouac.co.nz">www.bivouac.co.nz</a>

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Fri: 9am to 6pm Sat – 9am to 5pm

Sun – 10am to 5pm

# **macpac**

**Northlands** 

55 Main North Rd,

Papanui,

Christchurch 8052

Contact

Ph: (03) 354 9519

Ph: (03) 348 1203

Web: www.macpac.co.nz

Web: www.macpac.co.nz

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Wed: 9am to 6pm Thurs – Fri: 9am to 9pm

Sat: 9am to 6pm

Sun: 10am to 6pm

Contact Opening Hours

Mon – Wed: 9am to 6pm Thurs – Fri: 9am to 9pm

Sat: 9am to 6pm

Sun: 10am to 6pm

Riccarton

Westfield Shopping Centre,

Shop 258, Level 2,

129 Riccarton Road,

Riccarton,

Christchurch 8041
Colombo Street

Christchurch 8011

694 Colombo Street,

Contact

Ph: (03) 421 6507

Web: www.macpac.co.nz

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Wed: 9am to 6pm

Thurs: 9am to 8pm Fri: 9am to 6pm

Sat – Sun: 10am to 6pm

Contact Opening Hours

Mon – Fri: 9am to 5:30pm

Sat: 9am to 5pm Sun 10am to 5pm

**Tower Junction**Unit 1,
Contact
Ph: (03) 371 9342

7A Mandeville Street, Riccarton,

Central City,

Christchurch 8011

Contact

Ph: (03) 349 6089

Web: www.macpac.co.nz

Web: www.macpac.co.nz

**Opening Hours** 

Mon - Fri: 9am to 5:30pm

Sat: 9am to 5pm Sun 10am to 5pm

Hornby

Hornby Mega Centre,

350 Main South Road,

Hornby,

Christchurch 8042

### 🗥 Kathmandu

### **Kathmandu Christchurch**

**CBD** 

201 Madras Street Christchurch CBD Christchurch, 8011

**Kathmandu Tower Junction** 

Tower Junction Mega Centre Blenheim Road

Christchurch, 8011

Kathmandu Riccarton Outlet

124 Riccarton Road Christchurch, 8041

**Kathmandu The Palms** 

The Palms Shopping Centre Cnr Marshlands & New

**Brighton Roads** Christchurch, 8061

**Kathmandu Northlands** 

Shop 040 Northlands Mall 55 Main North Road Christchurch, 8052

Contact

Ph: (03) 943 7846

Web:www.kathmandu.co.nz

Contact

Ph: (03) 348 0152

Web:www.kathmandu.co.nz

Contact

Ph: (03) 343 4634

Web:www.kathmandu.co.nz

Contact

Ph: (03) 943 3921

Web:www.kathmandu.co.nz

Contact

Ph: (03) 352 6830

Web:www.kathmandu.co.nz

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Fri: 9am to 5:30pm

Sat: 9am to 5pm Sun 10am to 5pm

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Fri: 9am to 5:30pm Sat – Sun: 10am to 5pm

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Fri: 9am to 5:30pm Sat – Sun: 10am to 5pm

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Mon – Wed: 9am to 6pm Thurs – Fri: 9am to 9pm

Sat: 9am to 6pm Sun: 10am to 6pm **Opening Hours** 

Mon – Wed: 9am to 6pm Thurs – Fri: 9am to 9pm

Sat: 9am to 6pm Sun: 10am to 6pm



**Address** 

**Outlet Store Dressmart** 409 Main South Road

Hornby

Christchurch 8042

Contact

Ph: (03) 344 5304

Web: www.highcountry.net.nz

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Sun: 10am to 5pm

(1) CACTUSOUTDOOR

**Address** 

90 Fitzgerald Ave

Contact

Christchurch 8011

Ph: (03) 374 9268

Web:www.cactusoutdoor.co.nz Sat: 10am to 2pm

**Opening Hours** 

Mon - Fri: 8am to 5:30pm

orpedo

**Address** 

1 Picton Ave & Blenheim Rd

**Tower Junction** Christchurch 8011 Contact

Ph: (03) 365 2178

Web: www.torpedo7.com

**Opening Hours** 

Mon – Sat: 9am to 5:30pm

Sun: 10am to 5pm

## **TWALK Overview**

TWALK is a twenty-four hour orienteering event. It is split into five legs, each around 15-20 kilometres long. Each leg has around 10-20 controls, which will be hidden on features marked on a map and described by a cryptic clue.

The first leg is compulsory, as it leads from where you are dropped off to the Hash House. From there, competitors may choose to participate in as many or few legs as they choose, leaving when they like.

The event begins at 8am on Saturday the 28th of April at the UCSA carpark off Ilam Road. After everyone signs in buses will drop us at the *mystery location*. After the event we will be taken back by bus to the UCSA carpark arriving around 6pm on Sunday the 29th of April.



If you would love to be involved, but really have no interest in traipsing around the hills for 24 hours, there are other ways you can help out: (All volunteers get a free t-shift too!)

- Misc volunteers to run around doing general jobs on the day
- Cooks to help in the Kitchen (Must be available from Friday evening till Sunday afternoon, there is also the option for some cooks to complete the first leg)

Volunteer sign up details will be shared via Facebook and the CUTC weekly emails.

Jacob Klenner & Robert Phillips
TWALK Coordinators

# **Club Training Incentive**

Would you like to become more involved in the club, but feel like you lack the necessary outdoor skills? Or maybe you want to develop your outdoor skills further? Well, this might be the opportunity for you!

If you're a member of the club and participate in a training course to improve your outdoor skills, you could receive a \$100 subsidy towards the course costs from the club. The only catch is that you have to lead at least one CUTC trip after you have completed your training course, and share what you have learned with some other members of the club.

Once you have completed the course and lead a trip, contact the CUTC treasurers to receive the \$100 subsidy (with proof of the course costs + successful completion). Suitable training courses include, but are not limited to, outdoor first aid courses and alpine courses. If you have some other course in mind, just run it past us first at <a href="mailto:contact@cutc.org.nz">contact@cutc.org.nz</a>

Shawn Richards CUTC Treasurer

### TROGs Term One 2018

TROG ENTRY: 02 3/4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Participants: George, Ellen, and a varying number of other CUTC-ers.

Written by: George Moon

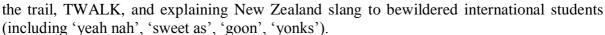
Route: Sharplin Falls car-park to Woolshed Creek Hut via Pinnacles Hut; Return via the

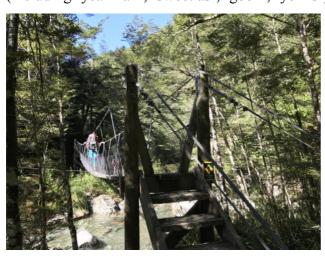
summit of Mt. Somers.

The trip began at the Clyde Road carpark, with a large number of people and packs attempting to fit into a van (with no trailer). After some amount of effort (requiring top-notch Tetris skills), the van got underway with Ellen driving her car—also loaded to the gunnels.

Whilst it's a mystery as to how the Toyota Hiace made it out of the Rakaia Gorge, somehow we ended up at the Sharplin Falls car-park. The blue skies above promised an excellent day of tramping!

Long story short, we went up, then back down again, then across a bridge, then up again to Pinnacles Hut. Discussion topics included: wasps, how hard it would be to mountain bike

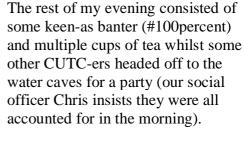






We had lunch, then carried on, going up even higher, then back down again to a river, then over to Woolshed Creek Hut, joining the other trampers. Tent pitching and dinner ensued, as well as a trip to the nearby water caves for an explore.



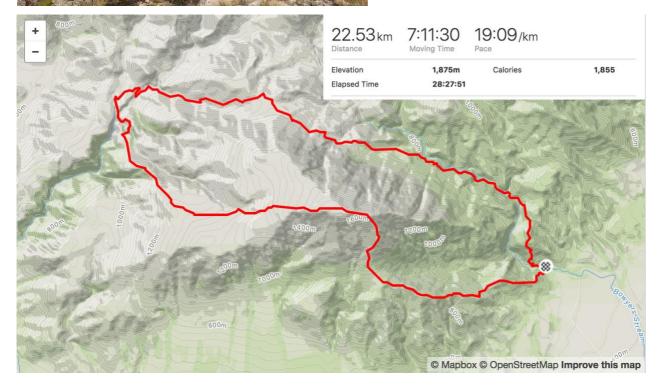




Summit conquered, we began the very steep journey down from the top of Mt. Somers back to the car park (with a few breaks along the way), and following a quick cooling of feet in the river, we got back in the van for the journey home. (Pro tip: turn off air conditioning in your hired van for extra speed ascending the Rakaia Gorge)

All-in-all a great way to spend the weekend.

# Bonus screenshot from my Strava:



TROG ENTRY: 03 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Participants: Maxime & number of other CUTC-ers.

Written by: Maxime Savoie

Route: Little Mount Peel via Deer Spur track and return by South Ridge route

Departed at 8:00 am from Christchurch, the morning was just waking up. We took a van and drove to the Mt Peel forest car park. We arrived around 10 am and started to climb up by the Deer Spur track. We climbed up through wet forest, after 1 hour we reached the bush line where it was still very wet and muddy (I would say more like a swamp).

We continued to climb an extra hour and came out on an open field, there was lots of nice landscape to look at. We came to the small shelter before finally reaching the top for a well-deserved lunch break.

After some group pictures, at 1 pm we went down by the steep and slippery south ridge track which exactly as the name suggests, follows the ridge down. We all arrived at the river and the top of the waterfall (not leaving without doing some small river walking first of course)

We then continued walking to the bottom of the waterfall walk which is 30 mins from the car park and then we were off back to Christchurch.





# **Upcoming Trips**

Here are a few trips that have been advertised on the CUTC website. There will be lots more trips going out, come along to the weekly meetings to find out more. You can also run your own trips, it's really easy to add a trip on the website. Come find a committee member if you need help or want some trip ideas, we always love to hear about trips our members are keen to run!

#### Worsley Biv Workparty - Sat 31 March to Fri 13 April

#### Andre Le Lievre - axlelievre@gmail.com

If you are keen on spending some time giving back, and helping to maintain the great hut network then feel free to come along! I am planning to spend as much time as possible at the hut from Saturday 31 March until Friday 13 April. There are not really specific trip dates or routes planned but if you are keen to help even if you can only make it for 2 - 3 days let me know and I'll help you get involved!

#### Mystery lake/ Boundary Creek Hut - Sat 7- Sun 8 April - Maxime Savioe

Hi all, I propose a two-day tramp until mystery lake (4-hour hike, possibility to do a nice swim) and continue until boundary creek hut (extra 2-hour hike) pass the night there (in tent only 3 bunk in the hut). Meeting at the UCSA car park at 8:00 am, car sharing if possible.

### South Opuha Hut and 2300 m Mt. Misery - Fri 13 to Sun 15 April

#### Kevin Fraley - <a href="mailto:kvnfraley@gmail.com">kvnfraley@gmail.com</a>

An obscure hut I've been meaning to get to for a long while in the Tekapo area. According to NZTramper, a party goes in by this route only once every few years. Riverbed walking or possibly some farm track travel depending on if I can gain permission for access. Fitness required--long days over rough terrain, and if climbing the mountain (optional) <a href="https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/">https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/</a>. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Option to climb 2300 m Mt. Misery if time and energy allow. Would like to drive down Friday evening and camp at the trailhead near Fairlie, hike in to the hut Saturday, climb Mt. Misery and hike out Sunday (likely driving back late in the dark). Email me at <a href="https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/">https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/</a>. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Option to climb 2300 m Mt. Misery if time and energy allow. Would like to drive down Friday evening and camp at the trailhead near Fairlie, hike in to the hut Saturday, climb Mt. Misery and hike out Sunday (likely driving back late in the dark). Email me at <a href="https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/">https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/</a>. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Option to climb 2300 m Mt. Misery if time and energy allow. Would like to drive down Friday evening and camp at the trailhead near Fairlie, hike in to the hut Saturday, climb Mt. Misery and hike out Sunday (likely driving back late in the dark). Email me at <a href="https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/">https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap/nz27234/South-Opuha-Hut/</a>. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Option to climb 2300 m Mt. Misery if time and energy allow. Would like to drive down Friday evening and camp at the trailhead near Fairlie, hike in to 4 others (not including me). Option to climb 2300 m Mt. Misery

#### Cameron Hut - Sat 21 to Sun 22 Apr - Kevin Fraley - kvnfraley@gmail.com

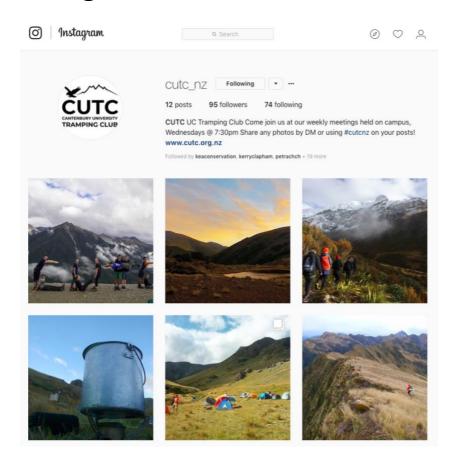
Continuing my tour of CMC huts, would like to check out Cameron hut up near the Ashburton Lakes. <a href="http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/">http://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/">https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/canterbury/places/rangitata-and-rakaia-rivers-area/things-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/">https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-do/huts/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/cameron-hut/">https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/cameron-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be reasonably fit. Limited to 4 others (not including me). Email me at <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation-hut/">https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation-hut/</a>. 6-hour hike in so need to be rea

## Club Trips to Look Out For!

The club usually runs a variety of official club trips across the year. These include:

- Cocktail party: Involves tramping somewhere and cocktails... what more could you want?
- **Re-Freshers:** Like Freshers, but at the start of semester 2. Usually to the Otehake hot pools on the West Coast.
- **Bush ball:** Tramping into the middle of nowhere, with costumes, music and drinks. Usually happens sometime in semester 2.
- Snowcraft: Learn the basics of tramping in winter! This includes how to walk in snow, how to use ice axe and crampons, and how to avoid getting yourself and others into trouble. This is a weekend course, that includes a night camping in the snow or sleeping in your own snow cave if weather allows! All the technical gear will be provided, but you will need to have all our personal winter tramping gear.
- **Bushcraft:** Learn some bush skills, including navigation, which way to pitch your tent, trip planning and more.
- **TWALK:** Our slightly crazy 24-hour event in a mystery location. Been running for over 50 years! See the TWALK website for more info.

## Instagram



The club has Instagram!
A place to inspire and share the adventures our members get up to!

Make sure to follow us @cutc\_nz and share you pictures via DM or with the hashtag #cutcnz

### #HutFeature

This term's hut feature is on Tarn Hut which is found in the Puketeraki Forest Conservation Area. The track starts in the Lees valley, just behind Oxford, 1 hour 40 mins drive from the UCSA carpark.

This hut is perfect as a quick overnight trip, a trip I like to call a day/night/day trip where you leave town at lunchtime/late afternoon and return the same time the following day. These trips are great when there's lots of study to be done!



The sign said a 4.5 hour walk into the hut, it took us just under 3.5. The track is a four wheel drive the whole way which makes it great for the banter levels as you can walk side by side. We didn't realise that the first gate was open and you were allowed to drive to the second gate (the true road end) meaning an extra 30mins of walking for us across the open farm land. The first 2 hours is wandering up a valley across farm land and then climbs steeply upwards for the last 1-1.5 hours. It's a bit of a slog but well worth it when you get to the top.





You pop out to see the hut situated very nicely next to a tarn. The only negatives about this hut is the lack of a toilet (they do provide a shovel!) and no water tank meaning the tarn is the only water source. This is fine for dishes and cooking but not so great for drinking water.

It's very cute inside, 4 bunks, a fire, and small cooking bench. There's plenty of room for 6 people plus packs (floor space for 2-3 people to sleep if needed). It's worth staying up to see the stars above the tarn and also to catch the spectacular sunrise over the hill!

You can continue along the tops and either do the full loop back via Youngman Stream hut or there's an unofficial track down one of the spurs from the top of Lillburn Hill. Overall it

was an awesome hut to explore, so have given it a rating: 7/10 (taking into account the lack of toilet!)

Ruth McKie
CUTC Membership & Publicity Officer

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