

All Blokes 2025 Men's Camp:

Kidson House, Mt White; 7-9 November



Travel time about 1.5 hours.

Follow the West Coast Road, (I prefer the Old West Coast Road as it's quicker & quieter) through Sheffield, Springfield, over Porters Pass, passed Castle Hill Village and Lake Pearson, to a sign showing Mt White.

Turn **right** onto shingle road down to West Coast railway line & Mt White Bridge to a signpost: Hawdon Valley.

Turn **left** at the signpost; follow road to another sign: Hawdon Shelter.

Turn **right** to drive through bush to a shelter and a paddock.

Drive about 100m from the road across the paddock; a track leads to Kidson Hut, marked by a road cone.

A short walk up the steep track to the hut; be sure to don good footwear.

At the end of the paddock, there is a 4WD track to the hut; only attempt the track if you have a suitable vehicle.

Pies from the Sheffield pie shop are recommended for breakfast.

Hut Cost: \$10.00 per person per night irrespective of age.

Power by generator which will run into early evening.

Cell phone: 100% coverage. No USB or USB mains charger unless generator running; bring your own charger.

What do I need to take? **EVERYTHING : Insect Repellent is a must!**

I will take a Ryobi tyre pump.

This is a DOC hut with accommodation for 40. As with all DOC huts, the bunks are shared. The hut has plates, cups, knife, fork and spoon, pots and pans. **You MUST bring All food including milk, breakfast, lunch and dinner, cooking oils, butter, jam, tea and coffee, dish wash liquid, a roll of toilet paper and a torch. Bring strong footwear if you intend to do some tramping. Sleeping bag (good warmth), pillow; take a tent if you don't want to share bunks.**

The hut is in the Southern Alps which is a mountainous area; weather is changeable; it could snow. Bring clothing and footwear for all season.

PLEASE bring a good insect repellent, all your own toiletries and medicines

What facilities are at the hut?

There are composting long drop toilets, showers and washing facilities, water is heated by a wet back pot belly stove, gas cookers for cooking, pots & pans. Lighting is by solar panel and 12v lighting. There is a BBQ but I will be taking a small BBQ and full gas cylinder just in case. There is a generator for power if need be; in case of emergency, we could run to charge cell phones. All Blokes will supply limited amount of food including cereal, milk, butter, bread, tea and coffee for those who run out. Do not rely on the shower being hot!!!!

What is there to do there?

Anything from nothing; bring a book to fishing in nearby lakes and streams, excellent walks, caving at Cave Stream which is well sign posted. If you wish to cave, take a good waterproof torch and warm clothing, a wetsuit is not silly and shoes or boots with a good sole. There is always a draft in the cave which can be a little chilling. From cave entrance to exit takes about 45 minutes and is worth the effort. Keep an eye on stream levels; if it looks like rain *do not* enter the cave as it can flash flood. If the pond at the Cave entrance is up to/ over your waist, do not enter.

Alcohol

Bring your own but drink in moderation. This is a high-country hut, too much alcohol could be dangerous if we have to evacuate because of weather, injury or medical emergency. Zero alcohol beer and wine recommended but not compulsory.

On Sunday morning, we will run an “in the bush” Church service with communion lead by Rev Sam Knight. This is something very special; those who have attended before still talk about how special this service is, with birds singing and bees buzzing

Water Supply

Water is safe to drink from the tap.

Safety

We have first aid kit, 2, handheld radios plus I have a PLB (personal Locator Beacon) if needed for the more adventurous. We have a full safety and evacuation form (RAMS) of which a copy is held by the Church office and updated each year. I, Peter, have a first responder's qualification.

Fuel

From Christchurch to Kidson Hut is only about 110K so fuel should not be a problem: I recommend fulling up in Christchurch as the fuel is much cheaper eg NPD Yaldhurst. The closest fuel to the Hut is at Arthur's Pass but fuel is very expensive. Springfield has a Challenge but Sheffield has pay at pump where fuel is cheaper than at Springfield.

This is the second men's camp to Kidson Hut, this is still a learning process for all. **Please** remember to be completely self-sufficient, including a warm sleeping bag and appropriate woollen clothing.

Food

We may have fresh trout if the fishermen get lucky. The general trend from past camps is that sausages, lamb chops and steak are popular. For ease of preparation, pre-made salads are good as well as potatoes, and broccoli. It's good to have cheeses, salami and other snack food to share. Cans or packets of soup are welcome if cold after a hard day's fishing, tramping or reading. Bring muesli bars, bananas, Scroggin, water bottle.

This document is intended as a guide only.

Any suggestions or ideas, or to book, please contact Peter on 0272103072 or John Hopper 0276804736 or email Peter: peter@wbsl.co.nz

We would love our Church men to join All Blokes on this memorable outing.

Peter Willams and John Hopper, on behalf of All Blokes

