2nd November 1981

Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

OTMC

BULLETIN

Registered at P.O.H.Q. Wellington for Transmission by Post as a Magazine

NOVEMBER BULLETIN No 395

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Every Thursday night at 7:30pm, the OTMC meets socially in the Clubrooms of the Otago Motorcycle Club, at 3 Clark St (1st street on the right up High St from the Exchange). All are most welcome to attend. 30c at the door please

EDITOR'S RAVE

It is almost too late to mention this but our landlord the OMCC in whose building we hold our meetings celebrated their 35th year of existance last month. I for one congratulate them for reaching this milestone and invite you all to do the same when next your paths may cross -be it on the street or in the hills.

This'll be about the shortest rave to spiral off my index finger. For I have been out of town and overseas on the magic south seas isle of Codfish, as a volunteer for the Wildlife Service. Quite a few clubmembers have already been there now. Everyone else should try and get down there too! It really is a fantastic place. Anyway, thanks to all who have contributed to this issue, and if you're wondering about OUTDOORS 81 message is that Santa rules ok: delivers the goods.

TRIP PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER

8th NOVEMBER ROCK KLIMBING DAY Strange days are falling round the tree of cream. Rare chance to see rocks climb. Mystery shrouds this day of deeds when smoke and roll thy pouch of weeds.

PASS HOPPING INSTRUCTION COURSE 14-15 NOVEMBER Yes folks! our very own Pass Hopping instruction course with our very own Pass Hopping Instructors. Come and learn how to hop over passes. Brush the dust of your pogo-stick BUT hurry; the exciting day is approaching fast. Phone Richard Pettinger 771 060. Hop to it! Bunny-rabbits are a poor second to pogo-sticks.

15th MT.WATKIN(E) A day trip to that obvious but little known hill inland from Waikouaiti. Mainly a car trip. Extensive views -bring your camera. Some may like to continue through the recently completed road to Nenthorn, and return via Middlemarch. Phone Ian Sime 36 185.

22nd TAIERI GORGE(E-M) Only mad dogs and englishmen should ever go down this track(?). The rest of us only suffer this for the bushcraft cause. However things might change and this area get more visits in future. Good rugged scenery. Phone Mark Hanger 710 484.

MT.COOK 28-29th November ALL GRADES No we're NOT expecting anyone to climb the mighty mountain but merely to ~~freeze~~ bask in the shadow of it! A real popular tramp this has been in the past for the OTMC. Is there anyone who hasn't been there yet...? Could we fill a bus at all for this? Phone Dave Manson 739 987 and/or sign the list at club.

29th EVANSDALE(E) Any-one not up in the ice and snow should join Rusty Rawlings on this pleasant jaunt into the NE region of the Silverpeaks. Phone 887 322

MARATHON Oh No! How fast the year doth fly by -its good old hard EXERTION time!!! Saturday 5th December at the crack of da dawn from the base of the Pineapple Track. Details from Brian Davies 52 748.

~~TRAMPERAMA 81~~ December 6th FLAGSTAFF-BEN RUDDS-PINEAPPLE TRACK Once

POEM

Go trav'ler unto others boast,
  Of mount's like Plunket Dome;
Of Eglinton and Hollyford,
  Or the 'Peaks not far from home;
Of streams that rush through rocky clefts,
  Or meander oh so slow;
These may be grand, but give to me
  The Routeburn in the snow.

-The Mountain Poet
(with apologies to Thomas Bracken)

TRIP REPORTS

WINTER ROUTEBURN September 26-27th (As the Trip Leader saw it)

Up the Glenorchy road snow was bursting against the bus windows. Passengers begin to stir with interest and anticipation. We never quite loose the childlike propensity to wonder. A brief halt for Jonathan and Mark, bound for Sylvan Lake and soon we're clattering up the dark wet track. A short breather finds trampers and gloworms mutually delighted. Then onward and upward. Bridges come and go and soon we're skirting sodden open flats. The track forks and candle-lit windows beckon.

Bloody concrete floors!

A quick hot drink then four hours sleep disturbed by wet snow avalanching and someones snores.

We breakfast on toasty-pies while heavy snow drifts down. It's an hours walk to the Falls Hut. Conversation encompasses worms, politics and religion so time passes quickly. The hut! Cheers for wooden floors and pot-belly stoves. Lunch done we head for the Lake and Saddle of Harris. But the basin is a slog with deep wet snow so we are contented with snowfights and photos. Thanks to the Little Dorritt our party dines early and graciously on stew, choc pudding and claret.

Sunday morning involves more snowfights and photography, then its pack up, clean up, and down the track. The pace is leisurely and enjoyable, sucking toffees and looking at ferns. Graham is well ahead with maidenhairs in mind... but Kelvin and I, long of tooth and spare of breath, scratch about among spleenworts and blechnums.

Perfect timing for the 3.00pm bus -no-one's late and an uneventful return to town. Alight at the firestation(sorry...) and toddle home to welcome smiles, hot tea and a bath(definite signs of incipient senile decay). Thanks everyone for a fantastic weekend.

-Dehy Stu for: Kelvin L. and Graham J.

P.S. Try the following on your next bus trip: -

Danish Sandwich(Danwich)

Thick sliced Swiss Rye
Generous spread of marg or butter
Mild cheese, marmite and sliced garlic sausage
Peanut butter and...
Lashings of Ritchards Chutney

As per cross-country klister, apply spreads in order of increasing sloppiness. Wash whole revolting mess down with great draughts of grapefruit Tang.
The effects of this are known as 'hypercarbohydrating', among the cognoscenti!

CATLINS AREA TRIP October 10-11th

I went to great pains in organizing this tramp so as to hit the area with as many different trips as possible. Just about everything was going right for me except the time of year: - Examinations and swot! So it was that we barely filled a rental van. Fate still had one trump to play. At lunch time on the Thursday before the trip I was cavorting in the sunshine outside the GPO and landed full tilt on my right ankle... painfull? -was it what!

Up with the digital lark and down for a 7.20am departure. Set course for the Wisp at the head of the Catlins River Gorge and arrived at 9.50am. Tramping was out for me and my ankle so I bade the others farewell and drove the van around the top of the gorge to Tawanui and waited for

them to appear. I cut some tent poles and pegs from a fallen pine tree, and boiled a billy. The NZFS have quite a nice camping ground established at Tawanui. With the steady lengthening of days ample time was available to make camp and have tea. A cosy fire and hot brews made good the gathering.

Having the van at our disposal made it possible to visit a few other places in the district. Huey had the weather in a typical on/off on/off mode which brought to light the true splendour of the coastal podocarp forest. We walked the short coastal track at Papatowai and then drove on to the Tautuku Adventure Camp. The Tramline - Florence Hill track provided most with more than an annual quota of mud, and the cups of tea round the fire back at the Camp completed the weekend just fine. Tautuku would be an excellent place for a Christmas Social...

-Jonathan Lewis for: Jean Pettinger, Anthony Pettinger, Linda Thompson, Jenny Greene, Cecily Wood, Alison Shaw, Bill Provan, Vic Simmiss, Paul Ware, and Ian Dickson.

BURNS TRACK-HIGHTOP Day Trip October 18th

Eight of us left Clark St. at 9.20am in 2 cars for Pidgeon Flat at the top of the motorway. Our waiting time had been made pleasant by a rare meeting with our landlords, the Motorcycle Club,who were departing for a non-competitive "grovel"(group ride on gravel roads) via Pounawea, Clinton and Lee Stream.

In an hours walk saw us on the saddle just over the Waitati headwaters, where we had a good reast and a chat. We lunched in the basin west of Hightop, getting water from an underground stream. Three fit guys walked on to Green Hut while the others turned back at the stile on reaching the Double Hill-Green Hut track. Low cloud threatened to come down later but never reached us. We were home by 5 from a pleasant day. Thanks to Ross Duncan from Ian Sime, Mandy and Mary Lavell, Reda Powell, Ian Fleming, Vic Simmiss and Craig.

LABOUR WEEKEND : PORT CRAIG AREA October 24-26th

1. INTO THE BLUE WITH R&R -HAUROKO TROUT HUNT

A nice little wander; nothing too strenuous, just a chance to get out into the bush again. Somehow after all these years you'd think that I would have picked up the understatements e.g.'too strenuous'. Oh well... Russell & Rosemary wouldn't do a mean trick like that...? Hmm. A jaunt to Lake Hauroko, some sun-bathing, fishing, and hopefully lots of bird piccys. It had been some time since I had dragged the body around the hills and somehow as we set off on the Friday in the continuous downpour, the mood in the car passed from joviality to becoming more and more subdued. Camping in the pouring rain after travelling for hours in Triumph comfort just seemed to lose any appeal. The atmosphere considerably brightened when we met up with the vans in Gore and found that a farmhouse had been arranged to accomodate us for the night.

Morning dawned and the generous Cockie and family must have been rather taken aback at the numbers of people wandering around in various stages of preparation for revered Labour Weekend. They did make a few comments about the shorts and the snow on the hills. Well off and away - so simple to say but my body found out differently. The weather was brilliant and the heat in the bush after the slog from the road -before we even started on the track- took its toll. Funny how unfit one can get in a very short time. Hump Hut was a very slow trip but the others were very patient. Lunch and then on the move again up to the Hump -no more beech forest and lots of snow on tussock. Nestled neatly at the top was an Alister-Metheral-superfit-superkeen party getting their daily Vit.-E intake. Well I'm sure that's what they'd have you believe as they did a slow bake on the top. We went our seperate ways and plodded over the ridges to the start of the steep descent to the lake. And pleasant it was too: kakas, tuis, brown creepers, etc. but no piccys -no time as we had to get to the lake. So beautiful in the distance, but swimming etc was definitely out. Even paddling. Rosemary and I were thwarted by the 2 keen males casting their lines in oblivious blissful tranquillity. Several hours later and a satisfying meal saw us settling down in the pits for a good nights sleep.

Sunday -well what could you say. Russell provided us with a trout for breakfast and Bill decided the water was just too cold and deep to retrieve some of his loures. Had a pleasant morning walking around to the lake outlet, discussing weather and how to sunbake, and telling bad weather in time. An energy-filled lunch revived us after the hectic

wanted to believe but things changed -drastically! The weather! A hasty return to camp, a hive of activity and then back up to the tops. None were keen to be caught on the exposed ridges -and to think I thought the Hump track was sleepy and hot. 'Grunt' always seemed such an appropriate name, but perhaps the others could term it more of a whistle&wheeze track. Half-gall of H2O, Refresh and goodies, a quick plod over the tops, and we were safely ensconced in the Hump Hut. Just as well for Huey did his darndest to send us home that night.

We took him at his word and set off in the morning midst snow wind and rain, and sloshed back down the track to the car. Guess it was a n easy jaunt, a picnic lunch just out of Invercargill, and home in daylight with plenty of time to do the washing. A most enjoyable trip - company, area, vegetation, wildlife -oh yes its great to get out in the hills again! Aches and pains and unfit body are already forgotten in anticipation of another trip as soon as possible of course. Must give a thought to the fishing line as an essential item on a lake trip.

-Sharon McLeod for: Russell & Rosemary, and Bill Provan.

2.PORT CRAIG BY THE SEA.

Friday was wet and miserable but the vans headed off into the rain all the same. It was marvellous to have a nice dry comfy house at Tuatapere to stay in. Saturday dawned fine and we headed off to Port Craig. Our party chose the beach route after taking lunch in waiting for low tide. There was a scramble over the rocks and a fair amount of wave dodging; even so Kathy got wet to the waist!

We found a beaut camping spot down by the beach much to the envy of those up the hill who joined our campfire gathering. Sunday was another fine day and it was off to the viaducts where we had lunch. Another party was also there, and we managed to pursuade them to clamber way down to the bottom for water! On the way back to the camp we went to Sand Hill Point which was rather exposed but gave view to a spectacular coastline.

During the night it started to rain and continued into the morning. A ray of sunshine appeared so it was then all go. However by the time we headed off it was raining again but with hail as well. Mud, mud, glorious mud; nothing quite like it for cooling the blood and slowing the pace. By the time fifty-odd pairs of feet in boots have been through the forestry tracks there are several feet of mud.

It was an exceedingly dirty bunch of yobos who scrambled for the vans in the rain. But everyone was there and so it was homeward bound pretty soon.

-Love and kisses from Ann Smith for: Pete McKellar, Kathy Woodrow and Peter Gascoigne.

QUOTABLE QUOTES & UNUSUAL UTTERANCES

The following gems came from the October Committee Meeting.

"I kept the roughs(of the letters) cos' if this goes through Committee; Richard'll want to know about it!" -Michelle Green.

"Treasurers nightmare!" -Ross Duncan's reaction to a proposed motion regarding trip fares.

"The toilet at Poplar: -Bill is looking into it." -Ross Flamank announced proudly without a moments thought.

GENERAL NOTICES GENERAL NOTICES

AHURIRI RIVER: Has anyone been up here recently and perhaps had access problems...? If so, then Ron Keen would like to hear from you. Phone him at 62 654. Ta.

OTMC GEAR HIRE: A pair of our crampons seem to be missing. Could you please check through your gear sometime soon. Are those really yours...? Bill Needs is itching to hear from you -776 576.

CONTINUING TRIP HASSLES: Seems that quite a tangle arose over the Labour Wkend trip. A bus was penciled in but caneelled when only 25 names were on the list when it came down. 2 vans then. Suddenly 12 bods wanted on. Too late; they were turned away. Well all of you should know the system by now. Maybe its the time of year. So please make up your minds and commit yourselves in time. Makes things easier all round. Could we please have

SOCIAL PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER

November 12th ANNUAL SLIDE COMPETITION This is the night when we see the results. Entries have been judged by Doug Gill of the Otago Photographic Society and by Gillian Brockie of the Otago University Photographic Club. LAST MINUTE ENTRIES: Give to Michelle Green Ph.774 834 or deliver to 83 Clyde St. by this Friday. See Bulletin No.394 for catagories.

19th MINING MINING MINING national parks MINING MINING MINING | Prof. Aughenbaugh of the Mines Dept at Otago University will present a view on the future of this issue. Whether you agree with him or not, this will still be an interesting evening. | ????? ????? !!!!! ????? ?????

26th OTMC COOKING COMPETITION Hmm this would seem to be the month for competitions but this night will really take the cake! PUDDINGS GALORE PUDDINGS GALORE PUDDINGS GARORE Can ye do better than ye olde Instant Pud? Bring a primus, fuel, ingredients and inspiration.

Work in pairs and aim to be ready between 9.00 & 9.30pm when judging will take place. Yvonne Greer, last years outright winner, will perform the honours. Good Luck but remember that the best Pud of all resides in Chch...!

December 3rd BYOS.BYOS.BYOS. The night of nights when we can inflict the BYOS.BYOS.BYOS: slides of our choice on everyone else...

SSSS

(Dear Little Lucifer,

Thankyou for your comments. I thoroughly agree with you as to what should be done with tinfoil. I have always carried non-burnables back out with me and would hope that all club members do likewise. My approach to campfires isn't so hard and fast. Depends on the site as to what I do. If more than 3 are in much the same area, I'll dismantle the surplus. If the area I'm about to camp in shows no signs of previous occupation, thenthe fireplace goes back to where it came from as we move out. A number of fireplaces indicates a popular or obvious camping area. Here I would perhaps enlarge and strengthen one in the hope that others will use it. I would welcome any comments on this from anyone out there on this or any other topic. -Ed.)

@@@@@ MEMBERSHIP AND PEOPLE @@@@@@@@

Life Members: The Committee are seeking suggestions from members as to who could be eligible for this title of honour. Anyone who has been of exlemplary service to the OTMC. See Richard Pettinger.

Change Of Address: Ian Seque, 296 Helensburgh Rd. Ph.63 311.

Resignation: The Club accepts with regret the resignation of Pam Gibbons who has moved north and has joined the North Otago Tramping Club. See you in the hills someday.
The Club also accepts with regret the resignation of Adrienne Wooding. Best wishes from us all.

Once again, please keep us informed of your whereabouts. Helps us to keep this old vessel afloat.

$$$$$ A SPECIAL MESSAGE $$$$$$$$$$$

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Good Photos -SLIDES or PRINTS of the following subjects:- ++ River-crossing esp. the log method ++ Campsites with & without tents ++ a Tramper with ALL the correct gears ++ Makeshift shelters, bivies etc. ++ Any Mtn.Safety type aspects. GOOD MONEY will be paid for good examples. Copies will be made and originals returned. These will be used in a permanent display located in Queenstown at the Dept. of Lands and Survey's Information Centre. Hope you can help me with this.

- Mark Hanger Ph.770 650 Wk. 710 484 Hm.

PRE-CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

SATURDAY DECEMBER 12

TAUTUKU

The Annual OTMC Rave-up is down in the magic Catlins Forest at the Otago Youth Adventure Trust Camp

COME DRESSED AS A SANTA!!
PRIZES FOR THE BEST!

DINNER ON SAT.NIGHT IS PROVIDED!! Please bring own food for other meals. ALSO bring something for a communal fruit salad for supper.

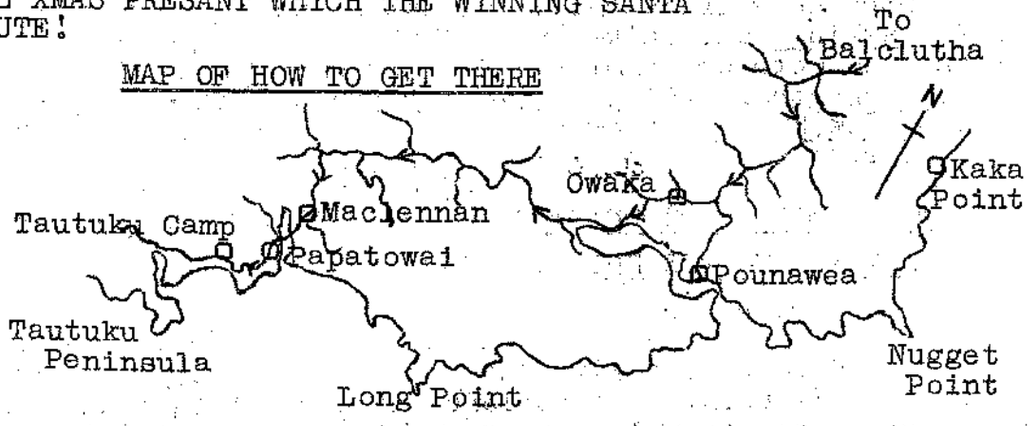
$8.00 PER HEAD(incl. meal, dance, accomodation & supper)

BYO LIQUIDS!

BRING A SMALL XMAS PRESANT WHICH THE WINNING SANTA WILL DISTRIBUTE!

TRANSPORT: This will run on a car-pool basis. Please sign the list in the Clubrooms.

MAP OF HOW TO GET THERE



THE CAMP HAS 4 LARGE BUNKROOMS WITH MATTRESSES, SHOWERS & TOILETS, LARGE HALL WITH STONE FIREPLACE, ELECTRICITY, & KITCHEN FACILITIES. LOTS OF PLACES TO VISIT FOR THE SUNDAY DAY-TRIPS. SEE YA ALL THERE! Santa G.

@@@@ Well there it all is then, Don't forget about GUY FAWKES at Smaills Beach. Keep on smiling. RIGHT: PUT ON THE COFFEE BUBBLES, HONEY, I'M COMMIN' HOME! - Jonathan Lewis, Editor.