

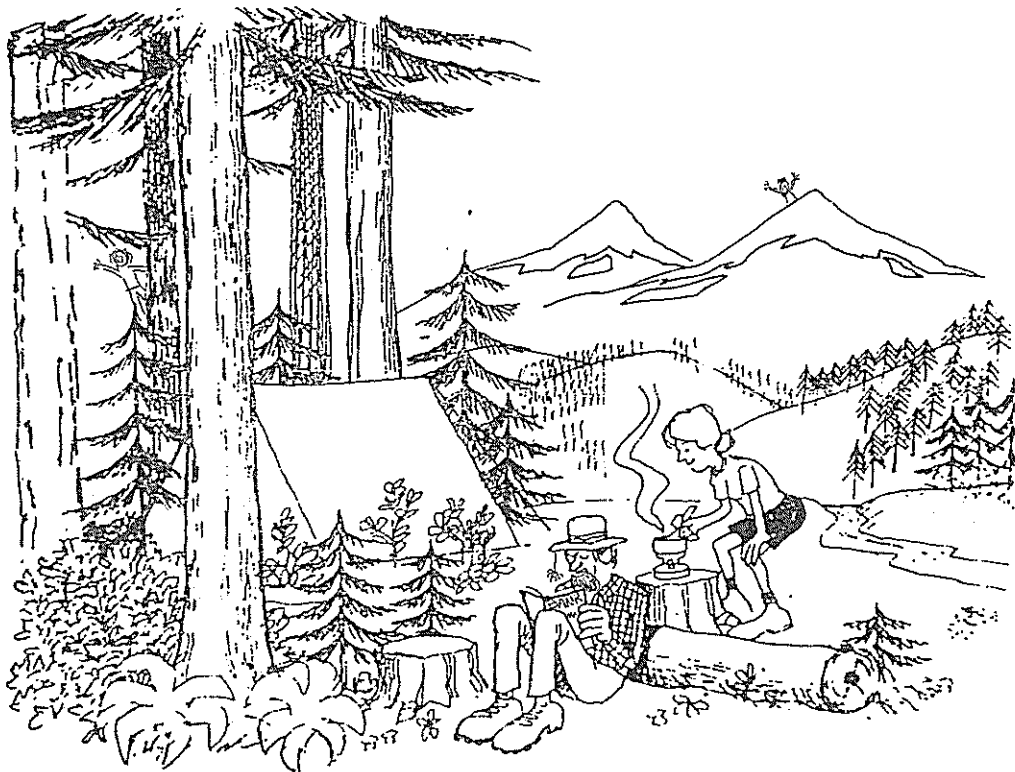
Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club

P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

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

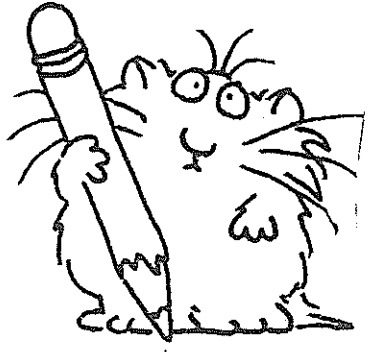
February



COMMITTEE...

PRISIDENT	David Peacock	779-855
VICE PRISIDENT	Heather Robertson	877-519
SECRETARY	Ian Sime	36-185
TRESURER	Mark Hanger	739-149
CHIEF GUIDE	Antony Pettinger	879-440
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Michelle Williams	737-814
SOCIAL SEC.	Doug Forrester	876-416
EDITOR	Sue Harding	738-659
GEAR HIRE	Simon Thomas	741-444

The Editor Speaks



I hope you all had an enjoyable feastive season and that all those interesting tramping trips proved successful. How about now that's all over putting pen to paper. Both David Barnes and myself would really appreciate trip reports for the bulletin and this years 'Outdoors'.

When our president, Dave Peacock was editor he encouraged people to voice their views, complaints, ideas, etc in the form of letters to the editor. I would like to encourage people to continue with this. I know people have little niggles concerning the club as I've heard them muttering about various things. How about sharing your views with the rest of the club? I'll start the ball rolling by a comment regarding Bushcraft. Why does it have to be run during the month best for tramping? How about changing the time of year Bushcraft is held. I'd love to hear your views regarding this issue.

Antony I hope Bushcraft proves a success for you and that everyone in the club who can, does everything they can to help Bushcraft run smoothly. Good Luck.

SUE your editor...

FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS.....

The virtue of the camera is not the power it has to transform the photographer into an artist, but the impulse it gives him to keep on looking....

Brooks Atkinson
(American Photographer)

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1988-89 SUBS?????

Do you realise that if you have not paid your 1988-89 subs by the end of Feb89 you will automatically be wiped of the list.... IS THAT YOU ? If uncertain phone Michelle, 737-814.



TARARUA BISCUITS

400g coconut
 1.3kg rolled oats
 800g best wholemeal flour
 2 tbsp soy flour
 3tbsp millet meal
 2tbsp brewers yeast
 3tbsp wheatgem
 500g butter
 500g raw sugar (or about 800g honey)
 1tbsp kelp granules
 3tbsp syrup
 2tbsp molasses
 2tbsp 'phosphosalt
 3tbsp lecithin granules
 spices, dry toasted sesame seeds, milk)

Use a bowl or a bucket. Rub butter (warmed) into dry ingredients except sugar and sesames. Dissolve syrups and sugar in (just enough) hottish water. Mix together. Add enough milk to make a heavy solid dough, which must not be crumbly. Rollout on large floured trays to about 5mm, sprinkle on sesames and cut into squares of a desirable size (about 6x6cm is a good size). Bake for about 1/2hr in a moderate oven. Avoid burning and undercooking. (It may be necessary to take them out once browned on top and separate and then put those with soggy undersides back on upside down). Cool on a wire tray before bagging (stacked neatly.) Only once cooled should they be handled roughly! ONce cooled only a determined effort will bring about their destruction.

SCARLET LADY, BLUE BOY AND BAG LADY in the Huxley...Nov88

Having decided to explore the South Huxley area, we headed off via greasies in Oamaru (Gastronomic Note - we recommend the Chinese down the road from the usual stop although Heather didn't think much of the chips; Cafe de Curb had excellent if slightly more expensive fish and chips. Bill's remarks about his paua pattie are unrepeatable in this family mag!) We carefully recorded the mileage to separate points along the Ohau road for those who wish to find the Maitland or Temple turnoff in the dark, and took advantage of the Temple shelter for our night's sleep, giving the new ultralite poufta pads suitable initiation on hard concrete!

Saturday morning we decided against driving all the way to Monument Hut, although there is a track across the shingle, it is not very clear and the river has been known to rise, cutting off routes for vehicles. It is an easy walk and the river bed had plenty of flowers to investigate. The track is well marked up after Monument Hut, along the valley and into the bush and on up to the Huxley swing bridge. The meadow just after this, was filled with lovely spring flowers, well worth pottering slowly along. Unfortunately rain began to fall so we headed for Fork's hut for lunch and contemplation. (Gastronomic note - cucumber and salmon sandwiches really should be eaten with the crusts taken off!)

The rain continued but we pressed on, along a well marked track towards the S.Huxley. We reached the forked stream on the true left of the river where the map shows the track crossing well below the fork, then heading towards the river edge of a small plateau, crossing diagonally and into the S.Huxley. Having had some difficulty crossing the stream due to both the rain and the snow melt, we could'nt find the track and decided to return to Forks. On final inspection, we looked above the fork and saw a feeble marker on a fallen tree - there had been quite extensive and recent avalanche spill in the stream, which washed away cairns and knocked down some trees on the stream edge -AND the map shows the track incorrectly. Because of the continuing rain, and being uncertain whether the track would once again mislead we decided to return to Forks for the night. JUst as well, as we hear that the 'Bivy' in S.Huxley is little more than a dachshund's dog kennel!!

After Heather's wonderful dinner (GN - always check who is bringing the sherry - we ended up with two bottles, how wasteful. I bet there were only 2 empty bottles remaining, ED.) we retired to the honeymoon suite- the original Forks Hut, which is very small but still on site - where Bill and Blue Boy chose the floor and Heather left her scarlet lady clip behind the bunk, Anyone going to that area please check behind the bottom bunk! We decided to head up Broderick on Sunday - a good track, although lots of recent slip and avalanche debris, and lovely views.

Because we took the weekend at a liesurely pace, we all felt that we had seen and done more- hares, a wallaby, a variety of bird life and (I'm convinced), a wild mink!??? The flowers - lupins along the lake, mistletoe, orchids, ourisia, Mt Cook lilies, celmisia and all the ones that we could'nt name were lovely. Bushcraftees of 1989- ENJOY!!!

Teresa Wasilewska, Heather and Bill Robertson.

(For those of you with fanciful minds, Bill and Heather had bright coloured silk sleeping bag liners!!!)

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Thursday 23rd February- Dr Kaj Westerkov talking on the travels of Andreas Reischek in New Zealand 1877-1889.

TRAVELS OF AN AUSTRIAN NATURALIST

Andreas Reischek, a 31-year old Viennese taxidermist and naturalist, arrived in New Zealand in 1877 to work for Julius Haast, director of the Canterbury Museum.

His wife was left behind on the understanding that he would send money for her fare to join him.

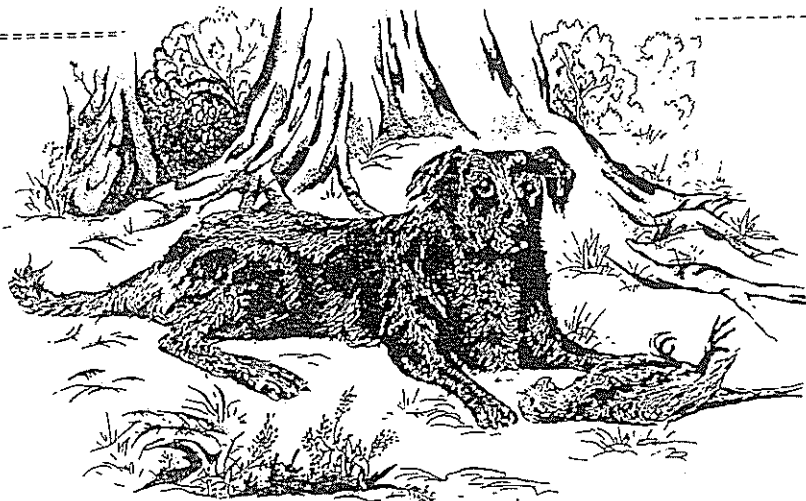
After his two-year contract with Haast was completed, Reischek remained in New Zealand another ten years. During this time he went on expeditions all over the country; Northland and Coromandal, Great and Little Barrier Islands, Ruapehu, the King Country (then closed to pakeha), the West Coast, Fiordland and the sub-Antarctic islands.

Reischek observed the habits of New Zealand birds, some of which were becoming rare even then, such as the kokako and kakapo. He made a representative collection of bird specimens, and also maori artifacts, which are now in the Vienna Museum.

Reischek returned to Austria in 1889, finding his wife waiting for him on the station platform. He took a job as custodian of the Linz museum, where he died in 1902 at the age of 57.

Dr Kaj Westerskov from the Dept of Zoology will talk on the travels of Andreas Reischek, and his papers and collections in both New Zealand and Austria.

Don't miss it- Thursday 23rd February!



— Caesar, Reischek's efficient dog and faithful companion throughout his travels in New Zealand; here with a captured Kakapo. Redrawn by J. Clough from frontispiece to Reischek's *The Story of a Wonderful Dog*, Auckland 1889.



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING - CLUBROOMS
 =====

A general meeting was called in November to discuss the principle of buying clubrooms. A motion was passed "that the meeting supports the principle of buying clubrooms and asks the committee to continue investigating suitable properties"- in other words, maintain the status quo.

The worthwhile part of the evening was the discussion. The points raised both for and against buying clubrooms were, I think, generally agreed to by everyone at the meeting; the differences were only in the emphasis given to each side of the argument.

For buying clubrooms:

We are as close as we have ever been to being able to buy clubrooms. Clubrooms could become an outdoors activities centre for the town. A 'home' for the club where we could put up our noticeboards and pictures and cultivate the club's social side. Looking for new rental accommodation is a regular burden for a few people. Property market not expected to fall further.

Against buying clubrooms:

Property market is a questionable investment. Clubrooms require commitment from a limited active membership. Postal and inactive members may be lost if subs rise. Fundraising and maintenance would fall on a few people. A burden on future members if we overextend ourselves now. Money could be used for other club activities- for example to support conservation issues. With changing resource laws we may need to pay for some legal battles. Or for training courses, first aid instruction, or more gear hire equipment. We are a tramping club, not a maintenance club.

THE EGLINTON VALLEY...5-6Nov.

The forecast was promising and we had a pleasant crew to tramp with, so it looked like we were in for a great weekend. Our trip involved making our way up the Eglinton Valley. Saturday morning was overcast but not too bad. The route was undulating and the track was covered with windfall and overgrown in parts. However by lunchtime we had made our way to the first clearing. After a rather wet lunch (it started to rain), we lost John and Sandy, however 40 mins later we were all reunited, well up the valley.

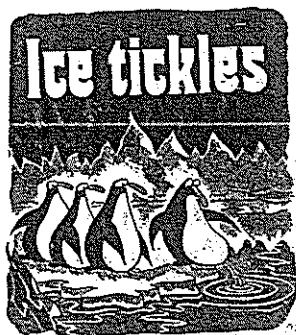
The Livingston mountains now surrounded us and Cascade Saddle was coming into sight. By 6.30pm we were tired, wet, cold and miserable so we decided to call it a day. Luckily we did as the rain became heavier and soon it began to snow.

Sunday morning we awoke to a white, cold world. Walking up to Cascade Saddle was a rather miserable affair as the snow continued to fall on us. We all had frozen feet so we decided to change our plans. Rather than make our way across the tops of the Livingstons we'd drop into the Greenstone. An excellent decision as it was much warmer and drier in the valley.

We lunched in the Lake McKellar Hut with Gary Nixon who also happened to be tramping in the area. We continued down the valley and finally reached the Routeburn Shelter and vans at 4pm. Along but very enjoyable trip had by...

John Robinson, Michelle Williams, Arthur Blondell, Dougy Forrester and Sandy Gordon. (Sue Harding.. Oops I nearly forgot myself.)

(Actually it was the East
Eglinton Valley)



LOST & FOUND COLUMN.....

AT XMAS SOCIAL found one green jersey and cooking tongs...
PHONE D.F - 876 416.

THE FIVE PASSES TRIP 31st - 3rd Jan.

Our epic trip began with a rather late start of 9.30am. However by 11am we had reached the Routeburn Flats Hut and were heading up towards the North Col. The North Branch is often overlooked by trampers doing the Routeburn, however it's a very beautiful valley, well worth a visit. North Col was covered in snow and so John and I were thankful we had taken ice-axes. The snow was soft however it still felt more secure with an ice-axe in my hand.

That night we camped on top of North Col in the mist. The following morning there was low cloud hanging around, however we were on our way by 8.30am. The climb around to Lake Nerine was rather lovely, as the cloud slowly disappeared, revealing all the glorious peaks and valleys of Fiordland. To our surprise Lake Nerine was partially frozen which destroyed any ideas of a quick dip. Snow laid all around the lake and the surrounding slopes.

The journey to Park Pass was very quick but hot work as the sun beat down on us. We lunched by a little tarn on Park Pass. We then headed down to Hidden Falls Creek. It was a fast trip down but rather hard on our knees. We still had plenty of energy so made our way up to Cow Saddle. We camped in a rock-bivy, a short distance from Cow Saddle where we were joined by some rather shy keas.

The next morning was bright and sunny. We were heading up by 8.30am, for Firey Col, which turned out to be heaps easier than I imagined. We reached the top by 10.30am. Being in high spirits we decided to climb Firey Peak. This I didn't enjoy very much as the rock was rotten and crumbly, so I stopped about 80 metres short of the top but John continued to the summit. We then continued on to the Olivine Ledge in the heat of the day. About 1.30pm we had a much needed lunch break by another pretty little tarn. We had views of the Olivines, Forgotten River, Albastar Pass, etc. The afternoon was to prove long and tiring. Getting to Fohn Lakes involved climbing 2000ft under the hot sun. It was an interesting area with rock ledges and a gorged river.

By 4.30pm we had reached Fohn Lakes which ~~was~~ frozen over, but very beautiful. We had planned to climb Sunset Peak but we felt too stuffed so just headed on to Fohn Saddle which was also covered in snow. The decent was quick at first as we bounded down the snow slopes. However further down we ended up bashing thru nasty matagouri. By 6.45pm we were down at the rock bivy where we planned to stay, but it was so dark and dingy and had unsavoury occupants, (the sandfly), we decided to pitch the tent instead. That night it rained.

Next morning we didn't leave until 9.30am as we thought we would have an easy day. (ha, ha ha!!). I visualised John and I both having a drink in the Glenorcy Pub. After 6½hrs of grovelling down the Beans Burn we had only reached the Dart River. This included a detour we made due to a certain (nameless), friend's instructions. We reached Rock Burn Hut at 5.30pm. We then continued on to Lake Sylvan which took a lot longer than we had anticipated. We arrived at the road end at about 8.45pm very weary. John then ran to the Routeburn car park which took about ½hr. We arrived in Dunedin at about 3am Wednesday morning.

A very enjoyable trip but next time we'll take 5 days and will avoid the Beans Burn.

For John Robinson and Sue Harding.....

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RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LAW REFORM - PROPOSAL PAPER

Resource Management Law Reform is a review of the major laws governing our land, water and air resources. It includes the Town and Country Planning Act 1977, water and soil laws, minerals legislation, and the geothermal and coastal laws.

A proposal paper has been issued that outlines the proposed law changes. Last day for submissions on the paper is February 22nd.

You can read this proposal paper "People, Environment and Decision Making" on the notice board at club.

FREE copies of the proposal paper can be picked up from:
Ministry for the Environment
3rd floor, Hallenstein's Building,
18 Princes St, Dunedin
(the doorway in between DIC and Hallensteins)

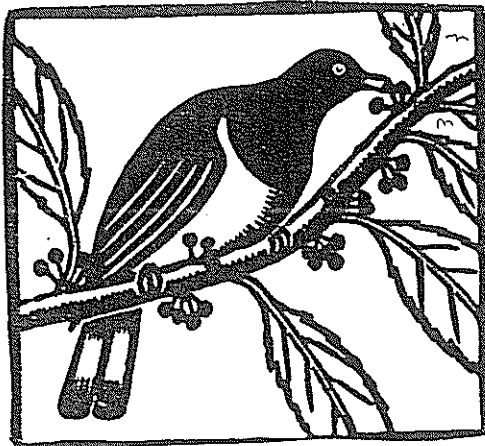
Why not pick up a copy and see what you think of it? We'll have to live with these laws a long time!

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An intrepid DOC ranger, struggling through the untracked bush of darkest Fiordland, caught a whiff of something burning in the distance. He followed his nose, and further along the valley he found an old swagger cooking his evening meal.

"What are you cooking?" the ranger asked.
"Kakapo," answered the swagger.
"Kakapo!" the ranger said, shocked.
"You can't eat that! It's an endangered species!"
"Oh, I'm sorry," said the swagger. "But I didn't know. I haven't been back to civilisation for years."

The ranger told the swagger he wouldn't report him this time, but that he wasn't to eat kakapo ever again. "By the way," he asked, "what does it taste like?"
"Hell," replied the swagger, "I'd say it's somewhere between a huia bird and a moa."



SUGARLOAF - ROCKBURN - PARK PASS - ROCKBURN GORGE and out.

29Dec - 2Jan..

A slow start to see if the weather would lift; it did and we headed off with good instructions - the Sugarloaf track is well marked, apart from the initial turn off from the Routeburn. This is just after the 5th board bridge along the track, ignoring some of the little ones, about 20mins down the track. There is a definite track leading off to the right, but only an old axe blaze on the tree. 2hrs to the pass is definite puff material for the likes of Linda & me. The tussock, heading towards the left side of the pass where the track goes over and down quite steeply. I'm told that a trip to the 'false' top of Sugarloaf is wonderful on a clear day - it takes about an extra hour and there is a tarn for swimming with panoramic views - this was not to be for us, as a cold wind came up while we picniced & we headed smartly of down to the bush.

Having been warned to watch carefully for the point where the track divides, one to the gorge and one up to Park Pass, we found it extremely well-marked, with about 4 different markers, arrows and directions!! Obviously many have been caught out before! Although rain was falling steadily and the river was obviously high, we had no problems crossing the streams on the track. There is a small bivvy just after the second stream - the track crosses the stream just above a waterfall and then goes down along the edge, skirting round the bivvy rock - a wonderful spot for a morning shower! Once we reached the river, the track was fairly easy to follow to the first small flat (good camping spots), and the 2nd flat (good swimming spots), and varied bush & beech forests. Staying fairly close to the true right, the track follows the river up to the swing bridge just below Theatre Flats, crosses and heads across the flats to go into the bush, marked by cairns.

Theatre flats has three small clusters of trees with excellent camping sites for whatever weather conditions occur - the largest has a bivvy rock, which has been well used, as well as three well established campsites. There are good swimming areas in the river and around different rocks in the flat. We based ourselves in a corner sheltered from the southerlies, pitched our tents and retired early after John's gallant efforts finally got the fire going in the rain!!! Other trampers sheltering around the flat had met with Chris's party doing the 5 passes trip and dreadful stories of rain, cold and misery.

New Year's Eve dawn mistly, but got even better so we headed off for the day to Park pass - over Janus Knob at the head of Theatre Flat - make a side trip for wonderful views of Amphion, Minos and the flats, a swim in a tarn and study of a wonderful little ecosystem on top of that rock. Through the flats on the other side and into an area called the Deer Trails - the track goes up quite steeply immediately after crossing the stream that comes off Amphion and is relatively well marked but I was warned not to be tempted to go to high. After coming out of that area, the track winds down to the river where it opens out and is easy to cross, following up the true right towards the pass. At the bottom of the pass there is a substantial bivvy - a big triangular rock near the stream coming off the pass, which is a good shelter in all weather conditions except southerlies.

We reached the pass and looked carefully for Chris's party who were to join us for New Year's celebrations, but were hiding in Hidden Falls. Celebrating with an exothermic swim in the tarn, we headed back down and almost had to resort to violence to keep Linda awake to see in the New Year - she

New Years Day was spent in total laziness on Janus Knob, swimming sunning, photographing, fossicking round for different flowers, orchids, water creatures and watching Linda being dive-bombed by curious keas!! We never even heard Chirs and party trudge by, but met them later on the second flat on route out. (gastonomic note- never eat a scrumptious tea after 3 days tramping being watched by a group that has lived on muslei bars for a week.) We bribed Rosemary with a cold sausage, toast and honey and were treated to a New Year's hymn in return. I lent my poufta

pad to John for the night (generous soul I am) and he did'nt even snore AT ALL!!! We were grateful to Chris's party for being relatively quiet in departing at some ungodly hour - we enjoyed toast and honey before out via the Gorge.

The track does most of the climbing before dividing into the gorge and Sugarloaf directions; however the gorge track does have a fair amount of guts and gulleys to cross, some of them quite steep. There are excellent views up valley to the Pass and across to Earnslaw and Leary Peak. The track returns to the river at a refreshing swimming spot and then meanders through the final shoulder of beech and divides right towards Lake Sylvan and out, and towards the MacIntyre hut and the Rockburn outlet into the Dart. The extra 10mins to the hut and river are well worth it- the river comes out spectacularly through a narrow gorge, quietly but swiftly, and is wonderful to swim in!!!

The track to Lake Sylvan is well marked, the lake itself is full of frogs, ducks and jumping fish. Thanks for a wonderful start to 1989, Linda & John...

Teresa Wasilewska with Linda Miles & John Galloway.

John's rating on the Dave Woods Snore scale....

NIGHT 1.....6
NIGHT 2.....3
NIGHT 3.....3
NIGHT 4.....0



Boots for Sale :-

Size 6, Alp sports, good
condition

If interested contact:-

Sue. 738659
(evenings)

“Congratulations”

The club lives up to its name once more, the following couples have recently become engaged.

Congratulations to :-

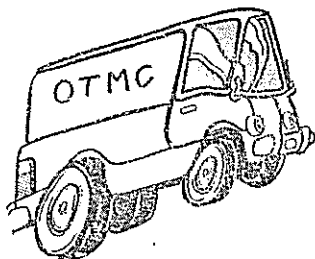
Chris Pearson + Cathy Woodrow
and

Evan Ley + Anne Stephen .

The Club wishes you all the best
for the future!!!



The Austrian naturalist Andreas Reischek on one of his explorations in the New Zealand bush.



Trip Programme

TRIP'S PROGRAMME...

FEB 4-6 (Waitangi w/k) HOMER/DARRENS....
Andy Beecroft - 739 262

Be quick to sign up for the first trip of the year. There is plenty of trips that can be done for all levels, including tramping, climbing or rockclimbing. The trip list closes 26 Jan.

FEB 12 OTMC CLUB PICNIC....
Bucklands Crossing. Dou; Forrester - 876 416

A day of games, eating, drinking and lazing about is to be had at the annual picnic. Contact Doug or come to club for more details.

FEB 18-19 TIROHANGA - BUSHCRAFT...

Leaders, instructors and helpers are still needed for the first weekend of the 89 Bushcraft course.

CONTACT ... ANTONY PETTINGER 879 440

FEB 25-26 SILVERPEAKS TRAMP (BUSHCRAFT)...

Leaders still needed for this Bushcraft weekend

CONTACT... PETER MASON 775237

MARCH 5 BUSHCRAFT RIVERCROSSING TRIP...

Mike Floate 739-780

This optional trip for Bushcraft to practise river-crossings is being held at OutramGlen. Meet at the clubrooms at 9am. Might be time to brush up on your own skills.

MARCH 11-12 OPTIONAL BUSHCRAFT TRIP (LAKE OHAU)...

Bill Robertson 877 519

This trip is also a club trip and is the biggest trip of the year. Offer your services as a Bushcraft leader or do your own trip. Trip list closes 2nd March.

MARCH 19 NENTHORN... Peter Mason 775 237

Do you know where Nenthorn is? Well if you don't, why don't you come along on this day trip and find out! Promises to be a good day.

Yesterday is gone.....
Tommorrow is uncertain
& Today is here, so use it.....

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Mame.

I hear through the grapevine that the club is looking for a cook for Bushcraft. I wish to offer my services, with experience of the Kepler Trip behind me, I'm sure I'm now experienced enough to handle the occasion. My menu, well I thought I would just do my Irisburn menu & multiply it a given number of times. What do you think ED. (Just marvellous, since I'll be in the Garden of Eden at the time, my stomach agrees thankfully, ED.) Hoping for a favourable response...

YOURS Doug F.

Dear Sue

Do club members know that the club is making a 9.4% profit on the DOC hut passes it sells?

The face value of hut passes is \$4.00. This is the price you pay if you buy tickets singly from any outlet. However, any member of the public can get a 10% discount by buying 15 tickets or more at a time, bringing the price down to \$3.60 a pass.

The club buys passes at \$3.20 each. This is 10% discount for bulk buying, and another 10% discount for being an agent.

The committee decided in December to charge members \$3.50 for each pass, making a profit of 30 cents on each sale.

The O.T.M.C. is a tramping club. It is a group of people who band together to make tramping cheaper, safer and more fun for each other. It is a non-profit organisation whose only reason for existence is to pass on the benefits of being a member to the individual members.

I think that cheap hut fees are one benefit that the club should be passing on to members. The club runs trips on a 'break-even' basis, and unless the committee can convince me that there is some purpose in making money out of hut passes, I think that these should also be sold at cost.

How do you feel about it? If you want tickets at \$3.20 then have a word in the ear of your nearest committee member- they are there to run the club for your benefit!

Jane Bruce



The Social Programme!

THE SOCIAL PROGRAMME...

Welcome back all, and it's Hi-di-hi for another year of tramping climbing (Aspring), and socializing. The social programme is starting to take shape however I would appreciate some ideas, in fact heaps of them please, so get your thinking cap on and ring me. Thinking up a programme with plenty of variety is sometimes quite involving and I know it's not always going to suit everyone, but it can be embarrassing if after introducing our guest for the night, there starts an exodus for the exit, it has happened, so could I please request if you have to/or wish to leave, then please go via the kitchendoor as discreetly & quietly as possible, (or even better, don't bother coming. I consider it bad manners and personally would avoid it myself. ED). It may just avoid our speaker feeling they have been abandoned. The supper roster:- supper seems to be popular enough, lets keep this good effort up, particularly newer members, your support will be most welcome.

Right oh, here we go, first one is ...

FEB 16th - Graham Loh (of N.Z. Forest & Birds), in Vanuata.

FEB 23rd - Dr Kaj Westerskof talks on "The Travels of an Austrian, Naturalist, Andreas Riescaek". (I've heard some comments on this one!).

MARCH 2nd: - Scott Nichol, Mining For Minerals.

MARCH 9th: - Moans and groans. I hope for plenty of members views on "Timing of Bushcraft".

MARCH 16th: - Mike Floate, "A visit to the States and some impressions of their National Parks.

EASTER SOCIAL

Excellent band, great venue right in the middle of town, tenting out will be in the Queens Gardens, (please don't damage the turf.) B.Y.O. supper as per Xmas social. Dancing will be modern, old time, rocking & rollin & jittering/jiving. 2 or 3 surprises! Good gear (hooray) be there.

