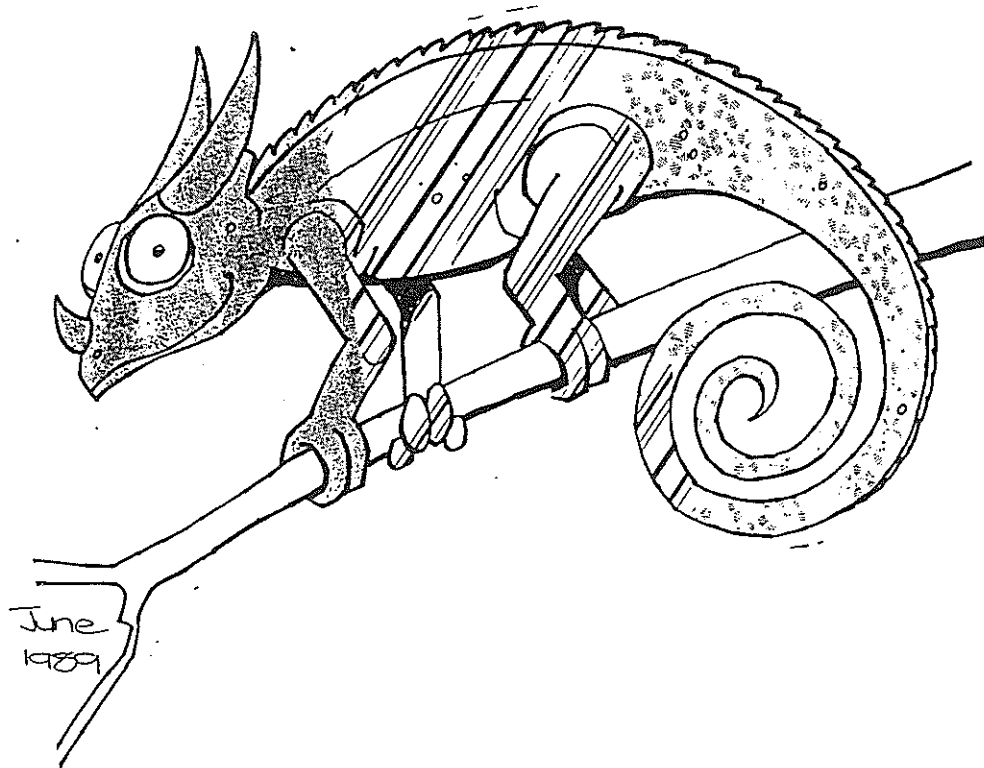


Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

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



June
1989

PRESIDENT	COMMITTEE . . .	779-855
VICE PRESIDENT	David Peacock	877-519
SECRETARY	Heather Robertson	36-185
TREASURER	Ian Sime	739-149
CHIEF GUIDE	Mark Hanger	737-924
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Antony Pettinger	737-693
SOCIAL SEC.	Michelle Williams	876-416
EDITOR	Doug Forrester	738-659
DAY TRIP CONVENOR	Sue Harding	737-814
GEAR HIRE	Debbie Williams	741-555
	Simon Thomas	



TRIP'S LIST

TRIP'S PROGRAMME.

JUNE 18th: SHAG POINT -PUKETAPU HILL (E-M) PETER MASON 775-237
A enjoyable walk from the coast to the Palmerston land mark - Puketapu.

JUNE 17-18th: CATLINS AREA (ALL) MARK HANGER 739-149
Visit some nice beaches or some old logging areas on this trip to the Catlins. There is a lot of historical interest here. With a now abandoned railway and various bush tramway logging operations it should be an interesting trip. List closes 8th June.

JUNE 25th: MARK'S MYSTERY MARK HANGER 739-149
Where is Mark going to take the trip?? Well, it will be somewhere interesting, but will have to turn up to find out. Departs clubrooms at 9.00am.

JULY 2nd: TROTTERS GORGE (E)
This trip will follow the events of the Wine and Dine and departs from Trotters Gorge at 10am. A good chance to loosen up from the night before.

JULY 1-2: MIDWINTER WINE AND DINE DAVID PEACOCK 779-855
(TROTTERS GORGE)

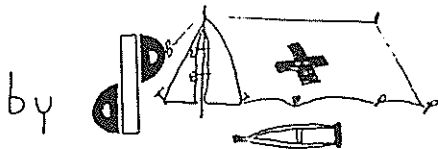
Once again the Midwinter "Bash" is on. With a good hut, good food, good drink and good company this will again be a night not to be missed. Attend club or ring David for further details.

JULY 9th: MYSTERY TRIP MARY HEWINSON 770-200
A mystery trip is just an excuse because the leader does'nt know where he/she is going, but they are always a lot of fun. Why not come along on this medium day trip.

JULY 15-16th: DANSEY'S PASS/MT DOMET (E-C) IAN SIME 36-185
Here's a chance to conquer a peak that is'nt all that far from home. Mt Domet is usually a one day climb for M-F people, so it is a good chance for people to get to the top and admire the superb views. There is also quite a variety of tramping to do in this area. Trip list closes 6th July.

JULY 22-23rd: SNOW ONE ANTONY PETTINGER 737-924
BASIC SNOWCRAFT GRAHAM HOPKINS 779-855
This snowcraft course is designed for the person with some tramping skills and have found the need to know how to travel across snow. This course will cover travelling on snow, with the use of iceaxes and crampons. A major feature will be leading safety skills such as self-arresting which is very important. List closes 13th July.

Presidential doodles



I will start off by saying that I was a little saddened by the letter from Anne Marris in last month's Bulletin. I, and most members can understand the difficulty of "breaking into" the Club and not feeling neglected as a new person. Most members of the Club have felt the same way initially and, although we all know that we should make more effort to welcome new people, it doesn't seem to work very well. But, as Anne acknowledges, the only way to really participate in the Club is to go on trips. It is particularly hard for people with little free time but, if a weekend trip is inappropriate, there is a day trip most weeks. Therefore, I'd say to most new people, don't give up too quickly; we're not a bad bunch of people and we'd love to see you on trips.

My doodling this month has been inspired by Bevan Blackmore's talks on First Aid (although the last one was postponed unfortunately as Bevan had had an accident). It is pleasing to see some Club nights used for instruction that will benefit many (another example is Ian Simes' talk on being a party leader). But staying with First Aid, it is very important that all trampers, and particularly trip and party leaders, know the fundamentals of treating injuries outdoors. Mercifully, there are few accidents on Club trips and, a bit like compass work, the necessary skills are rarely required. But one day, those same skills may be literally life-saving; with the increasing number of people going on climbing trips, this is becoming ever more important. Further, I feel that the Club has some responsibility towards encouraging First Aid competence amongst its members. It is not unreasonable to expect that all party leaders should be able to act appropriately if a serious accident ever occurs.

So what do I suggest? Well, firstly that all members should have a current First Aid certificate. I appreciate that most of the regular courses are not really oriented towards outdoor, and remote, accidents but at least they are a start. Secondly, every year there should be a couple of evenings made available for practice and further instruction. Thirdly, the Club, perhaps in conjunction with other clubs, try to organise annually a weekend instruction course on outdoor first aid. I do know that the Committee made a valiant attempt last year to do this and it fell apart through no fault of ours and it was a good initiative. My final suggestion, and the most contentious, is that the Club should subsidise the cost of attending an appropriate course (say up to 50%) for a small selected number of regular party leaders each year. Such an approach would emphasise the Club's commitment to ensuring that all our trips are well-organised with competent leaders. Further it would stress the importance of First Aid itself as a useful skill for all members. And, I feel that it would be one valid way of using a small part of the Club's resources to make tramping safer and more enjoyable for everyone.

I know that all of our party leaders are conscientious and work hard to ensure their trips are a success. None of us want a serious accident to occur but, if one ever does, let us feel that we have done all we can to ensure that the best possible help has been given.

Mc Cook - Mueller Hut

By Neville Mulholland for Antony Pettinger, Debbie Williams and Chris Wilde.

Our weekend started in the usual way, meeting at the clubrooms etc.. We stopped for tea in Oamaru, then on to Mt Cook. On our way past the Omarama pub, we just happened to notice Arthur, Sue H, John R, Michelle W and Mark P, who later claimed they were only making a toilet stop.

We spent the night at the shelter at Mt Cook, where it rained. At about 8:30 on Saturday morning we headed off for a leisurely stroll up to Mueller Hut, closely pursued by three other parties. At the bottom of the track leading up to Mueller, Chris thought the sign pointing at the steep hill had been turned around, and so tried to turn it back.

We got to Mueller Hut at about 11:30am, where, after walking all the way around the hut, we found the door and went in. In the hut we found a person by the name of Phil, who has not too pleased to see nine dirty, wet, cold, noisy bodies intruding into what, till then, had been his privacy, then hearing that there were eight more on the way.

We had lunch and decided that we didn't really want to go any further considering the wind was blowing quite hard. Arthur's party went on to find a camp spot on the ice plateau. Antony, Debbie and just about every one else, went out for a wander along the ridge, leaving the lazy ones among us alone in the hut.

We started cooking tea at about 5pm so as to get it finished before everyone else did the same. The aroma in the room was not of some fancy perfume, but that of the kerosine cookers that were operating. Phil and Chris managed to keep each other amused, by trying to see who would be the first to creat the smokeless fart, much to our disgust!?! We all finally got to sleep, after difference of opinion over sleeping arrangements.

Next morning, after defrosting the billy, which had been filled with water and left outside to soak, but instead freeze, we had breakfast with real milk which had been left by some kind human beings who had gone ten minutes earlier.

With clear sunny skies above, we all stood, sat or lay and admired Mt Cook and the rest of the view. The general consensus seemed to be that the toilet should be rotated 90 degrees anti-clockwise, so that patrons could look at Mt Cook, and not the Hermitage.

We tidied the hut, after the others had left, then we ourselves were away. In the valley, once again, we dropped our packs and went for a walk to Nea Point to see why everyone else was going there, then back to our packs for lunch. After lunch, the lazy one among us stayed to mind the packs and catch some sleep while Antony, Debbie and Chris went wandering again.

On arriving back at the shelter we found no one there, so we went to visit the Hooker Bridge, just to see why everybody else was going there. We made a nasty retreat when we noticed an old guy approaching with party in tow.

Back at the van we waited for Andrew and Graham to snow up, then headed off to Twizel for tea, then to Dunedin.

I would like to say thank you guys for a great weekend, but fell I would be lying. Thanks Guys!!!



When walking down a slope, dig your heels in.

Mid-winter Social: July 1-2

So off we go to the Trotter's Gorge where many a fine friendship we will forge as we relax with fine wine and food galore with laughter and jollity to the fore for this is the Club's Mid-Winter do and the person I want to see is YOU attending this exciting annual event that is held in a hut and not in a tent so bring some food and drink delightful and I promise you'll have a night full of merrymet, frolicking and good cheer to banish the blues of this time of year.



(NOTE: \$2 Hut Fee)

David Peacock 779-855



WAITANGI WEEKEND - THE TRIP THAT WASN'T

It was raining when we left Dunedin however the at the Gore pie-cart the weather looked slightly more promising and when we arrived at Mistake Creek/Hut Creek drop off, the stars were looking down on us. U-pass, Glade-pass & Dore-pass here we come!!!

We woke on a slightly overcast day and it was cold feet first thing with the bridge over the Eglinton no longer there. Daved determined not to have wet socks so early crossed the river without them, then an easy walk up Mistake Creek. The track was washed away in places, or that was David's excuse for losing the track. It was lunch at the turn-off to U-pass and the weather was not looking good. The mist was rolling up the valley, "but up and over", was the vote. The way up to the waterfall is not marked but easy to negotiate. (Ed NB, not safe to negotiate in wet conditions however.) The true left side of the waterfall is recommended but was very wet.

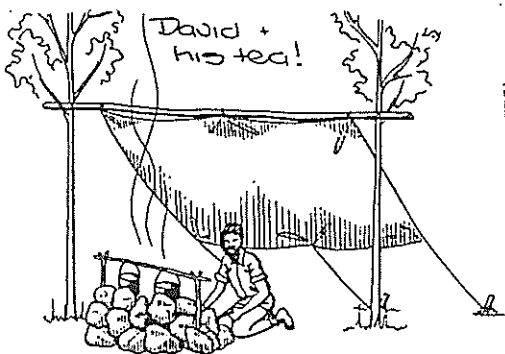
A hail storm at the top made sure we didn't get to enjoy the view and on to the top of the pass. It's a very obvious pass and the heavy rain and hail cleared at the top long enough for a rest and look around. Then down, boulder-hopping all the way, to Hut Creek. We found the only campsite close to Glade-pass turn-off and while tea was made a debate was started on the idea of carrying on our intended trip, if the weather continued the way it was our party leader had heard, that the pass was tricky if the route was not decided on from a distance. A party was following and they arrived to find an uncomfortable but adequate site to pitch their tent. "Our very heart felt sympathies to them!!"

It was an early night and we woke to more mist and after deciding that we couldn't see the other side of Hut Creek, there was no doubt in our minds that we were not going any further. So the only female was thrown out of the tent to make a cup of tea. The other party had packed up and were heading off in search of Glade-pass. We wished them luck and then continued on with breakfast, after packing up we headed down Hut Creek with intentions to stay at Cascade Creek. The track to the top bush is on the true right of the river bank, it gets slightly obscure due to a fall of trees and comes out of the bush near a cairn on the other side. It is a gentle meander down the river bed to the second lot of bush. The opening of the track is a long way up the river bank and is close to the true left side of the valley. The track is clearly marked from here except when it crossed a dried up river bed. However there is a track marker down the bed and it enters the bush just behind a tree with a marker on it.

We had lunch by the Eglinton River and then a hard pound down the road to Cascade Creek. Our camp for the night was the picnic spot and while we were brewing up tea, the other party appeared. After a quick discussion on the hopelessness of trying to navigate Glade-pass in misty weather it was a quick trip round to Cascade Downs for refreshments. Monday morning dawned fine and promised to be hot. The other party decided to go for a walk to Cascade Saddle, while our party elected to have a lazy day by the tent. David had us running to the toilet with endless cups of tea. How many was it David? (eight or more?). The day really heated up and all our wet gear was dried out, and packed up ready for the van.

It arrived late and once again we squashed in and waited for the other van, which did not show. A run up the road and we found them on their way back to Cascade Creek. Something about a muck up with the meeting place, but at 6pm we were off to the Gore pie cart and then back to Dunedin. An enjoyable weekend, thanks to Robert Sinclair, David Peacock and Antony Pettinger.

Debbie Williams.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR...

Summer's well and truly gone. It's now the season of tramping which involves early nights, (6pm in the pit), cold and miserable days and perhaps even snow laden tents in the mornings. However don't let this put you off winter tramping. It can still be an exciting time to go tramping or preferably obtain yourself some Xcountry skis and you will have an amazing winter. The club has introduction sessions for new people to the sport. Attend Bruce's talk and you'll be a converted.

I hope to see you all at Trotters Gorge later this year. If you speak to anyone who attended last year you will just hear what a fun night it is!!

Sue.....

OUTDOORS:

Your editors need photographic contributions.
1/ Cover Photos; Vertical format, slides or prints considered.
2/ Others; Prints (colour or black and white with people as the dominant features.
Please put your name on all photos.
It's also not to late for that trip report or other articles you've been promising to write.
Get your contributions to Anne-Marie and David Baenes.

FOR SALE: OTMC T SHIRTS \$15

See the gear hire officer, Simon Thomas. Limited number only!!



PUBLIC MEETING- BLACKHEAD

The Friends of Blackhead have organised a public meeting to discuss the protection of the unique basalt formations at Blackhead.

* WEDNESDAY 7th JUNE at 8pm in the HUTTON THEATRE (OTAGO MUSEUM)

The speakers organised are:

- a representative of the mining company
- Chris Baker of Te Whanau o Otokaia (the Brighton Maori Council)
- Guy Salmon of the Maruia Society
- a representative of Silverpeaks County Council

This is a local issue. Show your concern and support by coming to this meeting.

PS- there is a petition to save the Blackhead rock formations on the noticeboard at club. Look for it next Thursday evening!

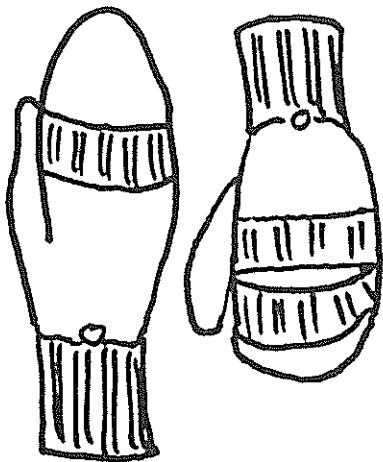
MITTENS I

How often, on a bitterly cold winter tramp, have you wished that you did not need to take off your mittens in order to retie a lace, or do up a zip, or handle a camera?

This is an old knitting pattern for mittens with a semi-detachable finger section - just fold back the flap when required, and the fingers are exposed. I used a small piece of velcro to hold the flap firmly in place when wearing.

Materials Required

2 skeins of "Sunglo" Shrinkproof 4-ply fingering wool. (Probably any 4-ply wool would do if washed carefully); 1 set of four No. 12 needles (double ended); 2 small buttons.



Tension 8 sts per inch: 10 rows per inch.

Using No. 12 needles, cast on 52 sts. (18 sts on each of 2 needles and 16 sts on 3rd needle). Work in rounds in rib of K2 P2 for four inches (working first round into back of sts). K 12 rounds.

13th Round - K twice into 1st st., K2, K twice into next st., K to end. K 2 rounds.

16th Round - K twice into 1st st., K4, K twice into next st., K to end. K 2 rounds.

19th Round - K twice into 1st st., K6, K twice into next st., K to end.

Continue in this way, increasing every 3rd round (leaving 2 more sts between increases every 3rd round) until there are 64 sts on needle. 2 rounds. K the 1st 16 sts and slip onto a thread of wool and leave for thumb, cast on 4 sts., K to end of round. K 12 rounds. Work 12 rounds of Rib of K2 P2. Cast off loosely in rib.

Thumb - Pick up 4 sts where sts were cast on, then slip the 16 sts on to a needle. Divide these 20 sts on to 3 needles (6 sts on each of 2 needles, and 8 sts on the 3rd needle) K 22 rounds.

Next Round - * K2, K2 tog., repeat from * to end of round. K1 round.

Next Round - * K2 tog., repeat from * to end. Draw wool through all sts and fasten off.

Top

Using No. 12 needles, cast on 56 sts (18 sts on each of 2 needles, 20 sts on 3rd needle) Work in rounds of rib of K2 P2 for 12 rounds (working 1st round into back of sts) K 14 rounds.

1st K Round - * K6, K2 tog., repeat from * to end. K3 rounds.

5th Round - * K5, K2 tog., repeat from * to end. K3 rounds.

9th Round - * K4, K2 tog., repeat from * to end.

Continue in this way, decreasing every 4th round until decreased to 14 sts. K1 round, then draw wool through all sts. and fasten off.

To Make Up - Press with a warm iron and damp cloth. Sew half the top on to back of mitten at the beginning of ribbing, leaving front of top free to fit over front of mitten. Sew a button at top of ribbing at wrist on back of mitten, then make a loop on the top to form a buttonhole - to button back when not needed. Well Done!

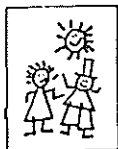
B L I Z Z A R D

Ice wind blows, knife-sharpened,
Striking numbed strength,
Mind raw and weary
Batting to a place of rest.

Swirling air is white and singing
Of the sweetness of death stinging,
Flakes of snow swiftly bite,
Flinging nerveless, shapeless hands
Over mountains,
Which flutter black and cold, a,
Desolate array of serried peaks,
Till thick shadows surround
Covering all sight.

I fear that bright shrilling beauty
Will in its arms enclose me
It's whispers only shall sound my ears,
And white darkness conquer.

Rosemary K. Goodyear.



CANYON CREEK TO AHURIRI & LITTLE CANYON CREEK
25-23 April 1989.

Canyon Creek to Ahuriri (Saturday)

We headed up the hill above the Canyon itself for spectacular views of the Canyon Creek Valley. Carrying only day packs we made quick progress over the flats and up the cairned track on the true right of the wall to the hanging valley itself. The waterfall cascading down into the lower valley was beautiful. The Canyon Creek Valley never ceases to leave me inspired; National Park quality? A little more snow on Mt Barth now than when I was last here in early March.

We were soon at the rock bivy for a chocolate stop before heading eastwards up to the saddle. There are some nice flat terraces with a couple of sizeable tarns half-way up the valley side going up to the saddle (MR 343752 on S99) - an ideal place to camp.

We had lunch at the head of the side stream which flows down into the Ahuriri. We then headed on down the eastward-running ridge between the two streams (MR 360750) to come out in the valley where the Ahuriri flows close to its true right bank. The views as we came down of Watson Stream, Mt Maitland and of the upper Ahuriri were superb in the afternoon light. A couple of us took superb tumbles skidding down the steep loose debris of the beech forest floor; no damage done though.

A gentle meandre back down the valley past Shamrock Rock to our camp in the Canyon Creek confluence in a round trip time of just under 8 hours.

Little Canyon Creek (Sunday)

The trick of getting into Little Canyon Creek is to criss Little Canyon Creek just above the confluence and then to traverse on the true left to avoid the gorge as follows: After crossing the creek move around to the right skirting the outcrop in the bush and then climb about 150 feet (but not go too high), then sidle back down to the valley. Time to where the valley opens out and the scree starts is about 2½ hrs. The sheer pinnacled sides of the Little Canyon Creek are spectacular indeed. The tarn up on the true of the valley looks like a way through to Canyon Creek.

We climbed up to the head of Little Canyon Creek and over a short way down the other side for views of the Hunter River disappearing in either direction as far as the eye could see. We could pick out Trent peak, Mt Brewster & Ferguson, the Wills Pass & the Melville Glacier. Back to the Canyon confluence with exhilarating scree sliding enroute in a round trip time of about 7 hours.

Thanks to Laurie for superbly organising and cooking the food, and to John Galloway for organising and leading the trip.

Garth Brown for John Galloway, John Warburton
and Laurie Parker.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME....



THE SOCIAL PROGRAMME.

JUNE 8th:

Practical first aid with Bevan Blackmore.

Due to unforeseen circumstances this is now the first night of Bevan's talk. Help keep the PANIC situation out of the mountains. Don't miss it.

JUNE 15th:

Peregrinations by Puffin a Kayak Odyssey along Abel Tasman National Park. Cycling is out, kayaking is the in thing, so come along and see how Stu will have made a good job of this one.

JUNE 22nd:

Informal. Two meetings tonight, mill around in small circles at the club then rush off down to the "Clare" for a quick one around another small circle. Come along, lots of big decisions made down at the "Clare".

JUNE 29th:

J.R. The evil SKI...mer of Dallas fame, skis the Canadian slopes. Ya love him, Ya hate him, Don't miss being entertained by J.R.

JULY 6th:

Second night, practical first aid with Bevan. Be there!!

JULY 13th:

Bruce Mason give his annual talk on cross country skiing what's involve equipment and where to go. A good introduction for beginners. This is Bruce's pet subject, he knows it well, if you're into skiing, this is your night.

JULY 20th:

Auction. The big night of the year, the club auction with Davie Barnes. He will sell anything, cast offs, (girl friends, Mother in laws etc...) food. alcohol. books. Give it to Davie and he'll turn it into funds for the club. For this night to be a success I rely on you all to SUPPORT it. It's for a very good cause, (more details later.) Please start looking for articles and bring them along to club. I'll start the ball rolling by donating a pair of women's tramping shorts, left in my pack a while back. (however the committee would like the owner to claim them on that night.

Congratulations

A very belated congratulations must go to Alison McPherson and Graham Johnston who got married in January of this year. The OTMC wishes you both all the best and much happiness for the future.