

BULLETIN

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SEPTEMBER 1989
BULLETIN NO. 45



| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------|
| PRESIDENT | Stuart Mathieson | 34-359 |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Rhonda Robinson | 738-142 |
| SECRETARY | Mark Planner | 63-988 |
| TREASURER | Teresa Wasilewska | 776-685 |
| CHIEF GUIDE | Antony Pettinger | 737-924 |
| EDITOR | Debbie Williams | 737-814 |
| MEMBERSHIP SEC. | Ian Sime | 36-185 |
| SOCIAL SEC. | Elsbeth Gold | 551-245 |
| GEAR HIRE | Simon Thomas | 741-444 |

TRIP LIST

SEPTEMBER 17 JUBILEE HUT (F) Arthur Blondell 897-633

Jubilee Hut is one of the OTMC huts in the Silverpeaks, and is the better of our huts in the area. Set in the Christmas Creek valley, it is dominated by the typical Silverpeak scenery.
Meet at the clubrooms at 9-00 o'clock

SEPTEMBER 24 ROUND THE TOWN BELT (E) Doug Page 774-911

If you wondered what the 'Toown Belt' was on the Trip Card, it means the Town Belt. Dunedin is very lucky to have an extensive belt of undeveloped vegetation, right in the middle of the city. You can go to the Town Belt and very easily believe you are miles away from the city. This trip leaves the clubrooms on foot and Doug will take you on an interesting trip through the better parts on the Town Belt.

SEPTEMBER 30- OCTOBER 1 SPRING CROSS COUNTRY SKIING (M)
John Robinson 741-193

This trip is timed to run at the end of the X-Country skiing season, but invariably it doesn't. Sometimes there is no snow or sometimes the season can go on to December. This year is uncertain so John will check out conditions before going and go to the best place. There is a Trip List in the clubrooms. If you would like to go sign your name up and go to Club for more details.

OCTOBER 1 SAREX (ALL) Stu Mathieson 34-359

SAREX means Search And Rescue Exercise and is designed to keep our SAR personnel in practice. The club holds a list of people who are called out to assist the Police to look for people in areas where our experience is invaluable to them. If you have ever thought about being on the callout list this trip is for you, and also to everyone on the list. On the day you will be involved in mock searches, be it a close contact, general search or whatever. You will also see how SAR works, use a radio telephone and will be a chance to get you name on the list.
Talk to Stu for more details.

OCTOBER 7-8 FIORDLAND (ALL) Doug Forrester 876-416

Does a weekend trip to Fiordland with sunny weather appeal to you? Well that is what Doug has promised to everyone who goes on this trip. Doug is heading to the Eglinton Valley area and as far as the Divide. There are lots of scope for everyone, from climbing numerous peaks to walking up beautiful valleys. This trip will signal the beginning of the 'summer' tramping season so why not come along?

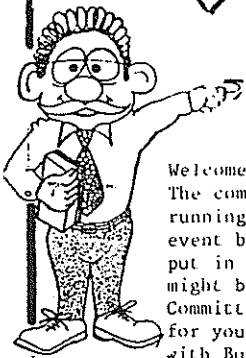
Talk to Doug or the Chief Guide for more information.
Trip List closes 28 September 1989 (Trip fare \$35-00)

OCTOBER 8 NENTHORN TWO (E) Peter Mason 775-237

After a successful trip to Nenthorn, Peter is running another one for all the people who missed out and would like to know where Nenthorn is
Join Peter at 9-00 o'clock

OCTOBER 21-23 MACETOWN - LABOUR WEEKEND (ALL) Mike Floate 739-780

Refer to page nine for further details
Trip List closes 12 October 1989.



EDITOR'S DIARY

Welcome to the September Bulletin and with it comes a new committee. The committee is that elite group of club members who do the day to day running of the club. Being on the committee may sound like a small event but our club business is quite large and hence committee members put in hours of work for the club. Over the year you, as a club member might be asked to assist in some way in the running of the club. Committee work can be very rewarding and you would be doing something for your own club. So if you are asked to lead a trip, help Ross Cocker with Bushcraft '90 or any of a number of positions that come up during the year - give the committee your support. They are there to make our club run smoothly.

During the year the club has several important issues to look into. First there is the ongoing question of clubrooms. David Barnes had done a lot of work in looking for suitable clubrooms, but to no avail. The club will continue looking through a subcommittee and report back to the club as the need arises.

Also during the year, the management of the Ben Rudd's Property will be reviewed. The committee will set out restoration policies and a works programme for the next five years with an estimate of proposed costs, which would be for approval at the next Annual General Meeting (30 September 1990). If anyone has any idea's or believe they could help the committee they should contact a committee member.

This bulletin is the club newsletter and therefore should be a place where issues can be discussed and members can express their point of view. As others have said, a forum would be good for the bulletin so if you have any queries or would like something discussed why not write a letter to the Editor.

Finally any material for the Bulletin would be welcome ie Trip Reports, Recipes Letters, Classifieds or anything that would be of interest to other members. Closing date for material is the Thursday before committee meetings (which are the first Monday of each month) and the Bulletin will be posted the following Thursday following a work party to fold and stuff the envelopes.

REMEMBER this is your bulletin so write lots of articles, etc.

.....EDITOR



DON'T FORGET if you have any contributions for your club magazine, ie letters to the editor, trip reports, poems, drawings, recipes, etc, either hand them to Debbie or Antony Pettinger on Thursday club nights or send them to 'The Editor' OTMC P O Box 1120 DUNEDIN.

NORTH COL PARK PASS - ROCKBURN

QUEENS BIRTHDAY 1989

We set off on a cold, wet Friday night with intentions of doing a trip over North Col from the Routeburn to Park Pass and the Rockburn and out via Sugarloaf.

We arrived at the Routeburn Shelter and quickly discarded the thought of walking to Flats Hut because it wouldn't save much time the next day. (You can't live on a concrete floor too long). It was an early start on Saturday and the weather was superb - a good frost and clear skies. Our party (consisting of Ross Cocker, Debbie Williams, Annabel Boyes and myself) set off and it was a brisk walk to the Routeburn Flats. We crossed the river just below the hut and kept dry feet. The track up the North Routeburn is on the true right and is easy enough to follow. After orienteering the second lot of flats the track is less distinct, but near the end of the flat it appears to cross the river and eventually climbs up over a small knob on the true left. We found that bouldering up the creek was quicker than the scrub, but if the river was high the scrub on the true left would be the way to go.

We had lunch on the flats and continued up the river. When you come to a bend the easiest route is straight towards the col, leaving the river. There are a couple of cairns on the way. We climbed steadily, coming across a couple of tairns. We camped at a good bivy rock (grid approx. 131 147 on Tucoko map). After having fun putting up the tent (with two of the stockards being four inches longer than the poles) we cooked tea in the biv and then had an early night.

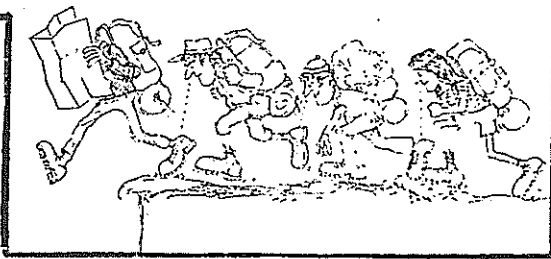
We got up at 6-30 am the next morning to another fine and frosty morning. We quickly packed up and set off for the col. We basically picked our way through rocks and stood on the col one hour later. We encountered very little snow but the ice water falls were impressive.

We then sidled around keeping our height till we got to Lake Nerine. We lunched in the sun by one of the lakelets but the sun soon dropped and the temperature must have dropped below zero and we were on our way very quickly. We ignored all other routes and boldly picked our way around the bluffs above the Rockburn valley, but after some hairy traverses we ended up on the ridge which we had to sidle in order to reach Park Pass. It had been a long day and we had a long way to go still. However we took time off to sit in the sun and eat our sponge cake, it really boosted morale quickly and it didn't take long before we were on Park Pass with the bushline in the Rockburn being our destination. We arrived just on dark and quickly had tea and were in bed ready for another early start.

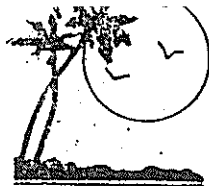
We left at 7-30 am and made good time to Theatre Flat although we did not have time to fully appreciate the Rockburn. We lunched at Sugarloaf track turnoff and then into glorious weather we ambled over the pass and down to the vans - three minutes before the due time.

It was one of the best trips I have ever done and would recommend it to anybody as a trip well worth your while. My thanks to the party for an enjoyable trip.

Antony Pettinger for Ross Cocker, Debbie Williams, Annabel Boyes.



On the track



Mr Mike Abbot is holding a talk at The Teachers Auditorium on Thursday 21 September 1989 at 7-30 pm to help promote safety in the outdoors and encourage people to "get into the hills".

Mike Abbot spent four months on a solo traverse of the South Island, starting on 17 December 1988 at Port Craig and finished on 26 April 1989 at Farewell Spit. This was his second attempt at the solo traverse as the first attempt was aborted because he felt it was too dangerous tramping alone through untracked Fiordland with no radio. The radio turned out to be his most important safety aid because if an accident did occur and he missed a radio call out he had only to wait for 12 hours before help would arrive plus a cherry voice was invaluable in helping to combat any loneliness. Among other things he carried adjustable ski poles which acted as a third leg in the more dangerous rivercrossings.

For the first three weeks through Fiordland from the Southland coast Mike Abbot saw no-one except for ten minutes when he picked up his first food drop at Lake Te-Anau. From Milford the going became easier as he followed better known routes along the Main Divide. He tramped some of our beautiful valleys such as the Wilkie River, Siberia Valley and Matukituki Rivers.

Mike Abbot arrived at Mt Cook two months after starting out and joined up with another climber to attempt twice to reach the summit of Mt Cook but because of bad weather they were unsuccessful both times. His parents joined him on the St James Walkway at Lewis Pass but then left him to continue alone to Nelson Lakes. Arriving at the Owen River Pub on 15 April 1989 with most of his journey over he pressed on to Fossil Point.

Two pairs of boots wore out on the 1600km trip which took a total of 130 tramping days in which Mike Abbot crossed the Main Divide 32 times and crossed 65 passes. Sponsorship from New Zealand outdoor equipment manufacturers was invaluable to have made this trip possible however Mike Abbot is \$4000 out of pocket.

If you would like to know more of this amazing tramping trip and the man who successfully completed the first solo traverse of the South Island plus see some of the 1500 photo's taken, Mike Abbot is holding a talk on Thursday 21 September 1989 at 7-30 pm at The Teachers Auditorium. Cost \$4-00

TRIP PLANNING NIGHT!!



The OTMC currently runs daytrips most Sundays, and weekend trips every other week. As we are primarily a tramping club the trips are designed to suit the widest range of levels.

In the past the Chief Guide compiles the trip card in consultation with interested leaders. This time a trip planning evening (October 19, 1989) is organised. Dates and other relevant information will be available and hopefully by the end of the night we will have a complete programme.

If you have any ideas, start thinking about them and come along to club to discuss them. If you want to promote an idea you can also bring slides, maps, etc.

Particular trips to be discussed are Christmas 89-90, Easter which important trips on the club calendar. Hopefully the result will be an interesting and varied programme, that everyone is happy with.

Chinaman's Hut

In Friday 14 July, 6 of us in 2 cars headed for North Otago, had tea in Palmerston, and arrived at Blanchards farmhouse at Beatties Hill at 9 pm. They had arranged for us to stay the night in their shearers' hut, a luxury we greatly appreciated as we watched television and used their electric range.

It was a clear moonlit night, so it wasn't surprising we had to slosh hot water over the windscreens to clear them at 7 am before heading up the road for half an hour towards Danseys Pass. We parked under trees near a shearing shed and farm hut to escape the expected frost on Saturday night.

The route followed a fence line, then across tussocks and down a sheep track to the Otakaeke River. About an hour from the cars we reached a major junction. The leading group of four walked up the true right branch till they realised by looking at their map they were heading in the wrong direction. They returned to the junction and then reached Chinaman's after only another 10 minutes. They were still there before the slower pair arrived.

The fast 4 who hoped to climb Mt Domet, dumped all their gear except protective clothing, ice axes and lunch, and tramped upstream to a large rock outcrop. Opposite this they headed up a steep snow covered ridge on their right. After climbing icy patches in fog, they lunched on a flat section of the ridge near rocks. Domet is 6350 ft high. About 600 ft from the top, out of the mist and into the sun, they had spectacular views and decided it was time to head down. Above them the route was slippery with ice. There was time to take photos on the descent, and still be back at the hut before dark by 5 pm.

During the day the other two had built cairns at the junction and at the foot of the terrace on which the hut stands, hoping that future groups would have no trouble finding their way. Then they lay in the sun, outside the hut, till it set. The immediate drop in temperature was the signal to light a fire in the well built stove in the hut, using the kindling and firewood everyone had helped to carry from the car. (There is virtually no firewood available in the valley.)

The hut has been restored by St Kevins College, Camaru, and is a credit to their skill. The job could not have been done better. Two Maori bunks covered with 4 mattresses each, and then topper pads over them, give luxurious sleeping accomodation for 12. The floor is well laid stone slabs. The open fire is not used and is covered by a canvas sheet to stop draughts. Strong shelves along one wall, with a large table underneath, give roomy storage, cooking and eating space. A set of pegs for hanging clothing runs along the opposite wall by a snug fitting door. There is no sign of vermin. Some pine trees have been planted outside, perhaps for a long term fuel supply, and more recently some young natives.

We were in bed by 8 o'clock after a delicious 3 course meal, and since all we intended to do on the Sunday was walk out and go home, allowed ourselves the luxury of a 12 hour sleep.

It took us just a neat hour to reach the cars. We had hoped to thank Blanchards for their help, but they were out when we called, so we ate lunch at their picnic table and were home by 2.30 pm. A very satisfying weekend for us all.

Darcy Espie for Tony Partridge, Chris Pearson, Ian Simons,
John Warburton, Kathy Woodrow.



PEOPLE

This is a quiz to see how well you really know your fellow club members and a good chance for newer members to learn a bit about who is who in the club.

- 1 What do the initials J R stand for?
- 2 Who's favourite saying is "You're DOOMED!"
- 3 Who wears Yellow parachute shorts?
- 4 Who was Chief Guide in 1987-88 year ?
- 5 Does David Barnes have a moustache?
- 6 Name the three Mason brothers in chronological order.
- 7 Who always wears slippers on tramps?
- 8 Who's favourite past time is attempting Mt Aspiring?
- 9 Name four life members.
- 10 Who threw a pack down a crevasse?
- 11 Who was president in 1984-85?
- 12 Who was Buscraft co-ordinator in 1986?
- 13 Who is the BIG foot of the club?
- 14 Who married Chris Pearson in April 1989?
- 15 Who fell down an old 'Long Drop' in 1987?
- 16 Who broke a leg on the Hump Range in 1985?
- 17 Who led the 1986 Christmas Trip?
and where did it go?
- 18 Who was nick-named "Mountain Goat" by 1989
bushcrafter's
- 19 Who is our current treasurer?
- 20 Does Heather Robertson wear glasses?





AN EXPERIENCE YOU WILL TREASURE FOREVER

THAT'S THE WORST OF IT? - BELISLOW GORGE

May 6 - 7

We were awoken early on Saturday by the sound and lights of a vehicle, shortly after 6-30 am.

Breakfast was had, after Arthur found the Fruit Salad and we were away by 7-30am. We went across the river and up the East Matukituki to Junction Flats where we had a short break and admired the views or surrounding mountains.

It was a short 35 minute grunt up through the bush to the bushline, where we took time to admire the view back down the East Matukituki, before taking the high route over Belislow Gorge. It was difficult as we sidled the unmaintained track. The lunch stop was by a washed out gorge and there was a debate between the Pen Pushers (Barry & Arthur) and the Labours (Michelle & Russell). We arrived at Ruth Flats by 2 pm and the sun was disappearing. A water stop was needed and here I foolishly volunteered to get the water, 300 m away. Revenge was sweet as the others suffered with the sandflies.

I chose the route from here and decided the best route up was what looked the easiest terrain. But, instead, turned out to be a gravel through dense bush, led by Barry and Arthur. Camp was unannouncedly decided upon at the first clearing we came to, at 4000 ft at 5-30 pm.

A gourmet tea was prepared by Barry, minus the soup and dessert due to the lack of water (Only three litres - next time I'll remember my water bottle). We were in bed by 7-00 pm where I was over powered by three thugs and abused.

Sunday we were awake by 6-00 am, dry and very thirsty and with no spare water there was no museli (What a terrible shame - Ed) instead it was Mars Bars and biscuits. Half an hour gravel from camp we struck water and we came across a track while sidling ... God only knows where it leads. Two and a quarter hours later we arrived at Wilmoor Pass. After a hairy tussock climb through spanards and up rock faces, this is where I found being tale end charlie isn't great, as at certain times the oxygen level changed, becoming thicker, as Barry was puffing at the wrong end. From here we had a good view back down to Ruth Flats and we could see an easier route up. Head up Ruth Flat further then ascend up the first prominent creek

The pass itself is ideal for camping with plentiful water supply near the top. There was an amazing view of Mt Aspiring and on descending down the steep but stable rock, through snow tussock and down the creek bed we arrived at Aspiring Flats. Lunch was at 12-30 in the sun before heading back to Cameron Flats to meet the vans at 4-30 pm.

Michelle Williams for Barry Wybrow, Arthur Blondell and Russell Godfrey.



the latest in news, views...and clues

FLYING AWAY?




We all wish Michelle Williams all the best on her travels overseas at the end of September. Among other places she will be visiting Nepal and Europe. I'm sure she will keep in touch with her friends at the OTMC as the Editor has permission to edit and publish some of her letters home.

Congratulations goes to Antony Pettinger & Debbie Williams who will be married on Saturday 16 September. We all trust that married life and gardening will not interfere with your tramping life as both are active members of the OTMC.

(Who wrote this? - Ed)

Rumor has it that there is a hot new couple in the club. Not much has been given away except both have been in the club a while and enjoy X-country skiing.

A warm welcome to Richard & Tracey Pettinger to New Zealand and the OTMC. Richard has been a life member since 1986 but has been overseas for the last couple of years. He met and married his lovely wife Tracey, in England and we know both will fit into the OTMC way of life easily.



Romance is back in style and the Annual Dinner was no exception. Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves and why not?! Good food, good music and good company with a number of of new faces.

Who was that young man seen to be dancing with Rosemary Goodyear all night?

Macetown



This three-day weekend trip will give you an opportunity to explore the Arrow Gorge, or travel over "Big Hill" - the old pack-horse route to Macetown and camp near historic Macetown by the Arrow river or the Rich Burn.

There will be lots of opportunity on Sunday (from base camp near Macetown) to explore the goldmining remains of Andersons, Homeward Bound, Sylvia Creek and Sawyer's Gully as well as climbing Advance Peak or Vanguard Peak and finding the remote "Skytarn" or the remains of a small plane which crashed in Sylvia Creek in 1975.

Mike will provide copies of Beck's map, published in 1983, which will help you locate may historic features of the district. Mike says he will be showing slides of the area on Thursday 12 October 1989 at club. Be sure you don't miss out on this interesting if not exciting trip.

Committee Notes.



During the year I hope to keep the members of the OTMC informed on the issues raised and discussed at Committee meetings.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 31 August 1989 at the clubrooms, over Arthur & Russell Streets at 7-30 pm.

It was pleasing to see a large turnout with six out of twelve of our life members attending. The main reason for this was the motion "That the incoming Committee investigate avenues for the disposal of the Ben Rudd property, subject to a requirement that future owners manager it in a manner compatible with adjacent reserves." This motion was lost after much discussion at which some very valid points were raised.

The second motion "That the money received from the disposal of trees on the Ben Rudd property be constituted "The Ben Rudd Fund" and that the Club does not authorise any expenditure (other than for rates) on the property other than from money in the fund." was also lost by a slim margin as most members were divided about what would happen when the Ben Rudd Fund runs dry.

Those elected for positions on Committee were:-

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Stuart Mathieson | President | |
| Rhonda Robinson | Vice-President | |
| Mark Planner | Secretary | |
| Teresa Wasilewska | Treasurer | |
| Elspeth Gold | Committee | |
| Mark Hanger | Committee | With David Peacock as |
| Antony Pettinger | Committee | Immediate Past President |
| Sharon St Clair-Newman | Committee | |
| Ian Sime | Committee | |

The issue of buying clubrooms was raised once again and it was agreed that the club would continue to look at any suitable clubrooms.

The books for the last financial year have not been audited as yet and it seems very likely that the club will have to begin looking at a firm to do this. The cost may be \$1000-00 but they must be audited.

COMMITTEE MEETING

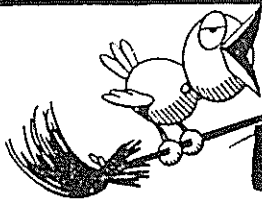
The first committee meeting was held at Stuart Mathieson's house (the new president) on Monday 4 September 1989.

The positions on committee were divided among those who were interested in particular jobs.

The clubs library will be recatalogued so all those who are holding any overdue books watch out as Peter Mason will be on the look out for these. Now is the time to hand any back in.

There is a number of things that need doing on the Big Hut on the Rock & Pillars and anyone who is interested in offering their time and skills then Peter Mason will be happy to talk to you.

Day trip leaders are reminded to have a search & rescue contact for ALL day trips and a list of who is going is to be left in the box on the front door of the clubrooms. Anyone unsure is to see Sharon St Clair-Newman



NEW MEMBERS

Gemma Mathieson
2 Byron Street
Mornington
DUNEDIN 34-359

Chris Purvis
425 Pine Hill Road
Pine Hill
DUNEDIN 739-393

Catherine Allen
Flat 1
367 High Street
DUNEDIN

Liz & Alister Grant
12 Aytoun Street
DUNEDIN 42-111

Michael Fay
Mt Cargill Road
No. 2 R D
Waitati
OTAGO 822-806

Bruce Newton
149 Victoria Road
St Clair
DUNEDIN 876-376

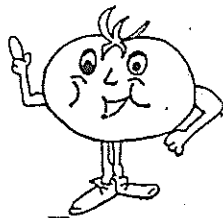
ADDRESS CHANGES

Neil George
66 Maron Street
MACANDREW BAY

Mike Crashley
8 Spylaw Street
Maori Hill
DUNEDIN 741-961

Bruce Mason
10 Bayne Terrace
MACANDREW BAY

Michelle & Alister Metherall
C/- A Green
7 Bruce Street
DUNEDIN



"I think the takahe
has spotted our
camera."

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S



SOCIAL PROGRAMME



SEPTEMBER 28

BYO SLIDES

Doug's action packed social programme has tired you out so some time for a relaxing evening while I organize myself on trying to fill Doug's shoes.

OCTOBER 5

THE GREAT OVERSEAS TAVERN TREK

A tale of adventure and alcohol by Elspeth Gold. Covering Malaysia, Nepal, Northern India, Pakistan, Middle East, Turkey and the United Kingdom. If you're thinking of traveling there in the future or just plain interested in travel then this one is a must.

OCTOBER 12

QUIZ NIGHT

Come and pit you knowledge - or lack of it against other club members. You'll be surprised at the prizes for this one and some of the questions (and answers too).

OCTOBER 19

INFORMAL NIGHT

Your chance to have your say in where the club should go tramping, after all this is a tramping club. If you've got a brilliant idea or want more of the Epics of Yesteryear or if you know of an area the club has not visited for a long time or a place where the club should go then come along and air your thoughts. If you have a trip coming up and want to promote it then this is also a good chance. Bring along a few slides too as this is an informal night.

AND NOW FOR AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE From Your Social Secretary.....

I'd like to thank Doug Forrester, our outgoing Social Secretary, for all hard work. Your going to be a tough act to follow Doug. Talking about trying to live up to Doug's jogj standards - if you have been somewhere exotic or know someone who has or maybe you have a burning desire to know something but were too afraid to ask then please see me. Can I twist your arm to speak on a club night? please approach me - I'm very approachable! I need ideas and input from members so I can make every club night interesting.

Elspeth Gold Ph 551245

(please call me)

