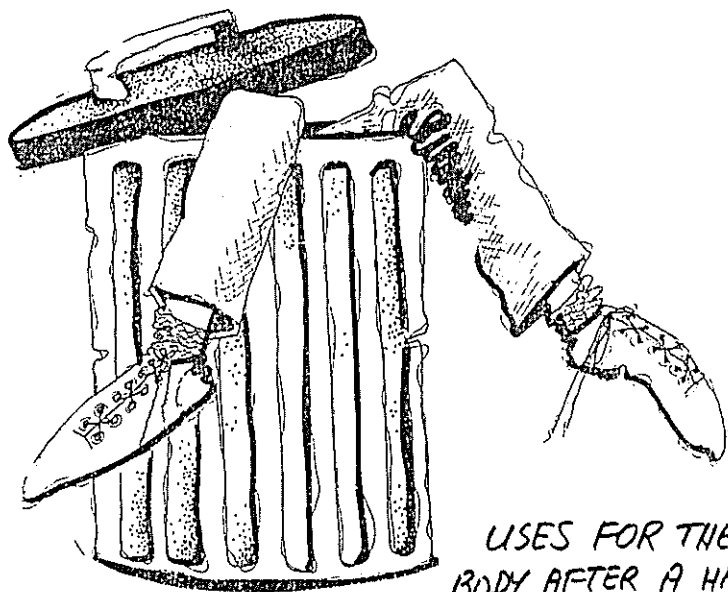


Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

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

MARCH 1991
BULLETIN NO. 496



USES FOR THE HUMAN
BODY AFTER A HARD
WEEKEND... TRAMPING
THAT IS.

PRESIDENT	Elspeth Gold	453-0644
VICE PRESIDENT	Rhonda Robinson	473-8142
SECRETARY	Eric Lord	454-4043
TREASURER	Christine Cocks	473-8329
CHIEF GUIDE	David Barnes	454-4492
DAY TRIP CONVENOR		
& TRAINING OFFICER	Antony Pettinger	473-7924
EDITOR	Sue Levick	473-8427
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Ian Sime	453-6185
SOCIAL SEC.	Julie Lord	454-4043
GEAR HIRE	Sharon St Clair-Newman	476-3918

THE OTAGO TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
MEETS EVERY THURSDAY
7:30 PM
AT 3 YOUNG STREET

TRIP LIST



- MARCH 17 WORK PARTY Peter Mason 473-7636
- A chance to put something back into "the hills" - could be track clearing, but maintenance, whatever.
- MARCH 24 SUNNYBRAE - BOULDER BEACH (E-M) David Barnes 454-4492
- Travel along some of the historic routes recently publicised by Otago Peninsula Walkers. Otago Peninsula coast to coast.
- MARCH 29 - APRIL 1 BEANS BURN (M-FE) Arthur Blondell 489-7633
EASTER
- Pass hopping in the valleys north of the Routeburn.
- APRIL 7 ROCK & PILLARS (M) Stuart Mathieson 453-4359
- A trip to the top of the range behind Middlemarch. (8am start)
- APRIL 13-14 MACETOWN (ALL) Mike Floate 473-9780
- Something for everyone here - fossick in the relics of the goldmining era or get up to the tops.
- APRIL 14 PAINTED FOREST (E-M) Dave Levick 473-8427
- A Silverpeaks favourite.
- APRIL 21 NARDOO (E-M) Ross Cocker 4545995
- A popular destination, with views from the Hokonuis to the Kakanuis
- APRIL 25 - 28 MILFORD TRACK - DORE PASS (M) Doug Forrester 487-6416
- This trip is already attracting heaps of interest. We will be doing the track the "wrong way" and in the tourist off-season. The "finale" over Dore Pass (5000') will add a bit more challenge than the standard Milford.
- APRIL 28 MCKENZIE HUT (E) Ian sime 453-6185
- Not the one on the Routeburn - this one's on the foothills of the Rock & Pillars.
- MAY 4 - 5 ROUTEburn - GREENSTONE CROSSOVER (EM FE) Elspeth Gold 453-0644
- A van at Kinloch, one at the Divide, and everyone swaps vans using any one of several great routes (including the Routeburn Greenstone and Caples tracks). This trip was over-subscribed last year so sign up early.



EDITORS DIARY

This month has seen another successful Bushcraft course nearly over. Most Club Members have helped in one way or another. It's good to see the enthusiasm and energy put in.

We've had some good talks at the Club lately, so I thought I would say a few words about them for those who missed them.

David Levick gave us a talk on the 7th of February. This talk was about a major trip he and some others made into the Northern Olivines way back in 1984. It gave us an insight into one of the lesser tramped areas.

David Barnes managed to complete the trip list on the same night. Club Members had a "brainstorming session" and filled in the gaps for the next few months. A copy of the trip list should be enclosed with this Bulletin.

February 14th saw Ken Mason give us a talk on the many and varied approaches to the head of the Dart. It's obvious that he knows the area like the back of his hand. We were also treated to some early photos of the OTC in the area.

Eric Lord gave us a talk on the 21st of Feb about popular tramping tracks in the South. This talk would have been good for Bushcrafters, to enthuse and give them ideas of where to go. I was also enthused when I saw the slides of the Kepler Track and the amazing views of the Lakes.

Next month's Bulletin will be devoted to Bushcraft trip reports. If you were a party leader on the Silverpeaks or Ohau trips, please ask one of your party members to write a trip report ($\frac{1}{2}$ page will do). Bushcrafters, this is your chance, to tell us what your impressions of the Tirohanga weekend, Silverpeaks and Ohau are. It's also a golden opportunity to get your own back on party leaders and fellow party members! Give me the shocking truth and I will print it!

Until next month.....

Sure.

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL BULLETIN - 28 MARCH (THURSDAY)

However I can sometimes fit contributions in after the deadline.
(Chocolate biscuits will be accepted as bribes after the deadline!)

ROUTE BURN - GREENSTONE CROSSOVER TRIP

If you missed out on this trip last year and were on the reserve list, see Elspeth Gold if you want to go this time. Please let her know before the trip list goes up.

BUSHCRAFT RIVERCROSSING DAY

If you don't already know, the rivercrossing day had to be postponed due to the height of the river.

RIVERCROSSING DAY IS NOW TO BE HELD ON THE 17th OF MARCH.

SECRETARY'S CORNER



Giddyay everyone, very short and sweet this time. The only thing of interest that is worth noting down to inform you about without which may lead to unforeseen situations is ...wait for it ... The New Zealand Alpine Journal. Great stories, excellent photographs and none of the twaddle that you had to read to get here. You'll find it in the Club's library unless of course someone else is enjoying it, but don't worry there are plenty of other books in the library to read.

Cheers, Eric.

Quotes From the Paparoas

by Neville Mulholland

Here are some of the more interesting quotes from the Paparoas Christmas trip.

(While stopped for lunch at the Ballroom Overhang...)

Neville:- We could stay here for the next week.

Dean:- No, we have to get somewhere on this trip!?

(At the chosen campsite near Mt Priestly...)

Dean:- (looking into the tent..) The softest spot is probably going to be on top of the person next to you.
(he was in the middle.)

(During a pit day near Mt Priestly...)

1. On the radio:- Today is a good day to be thinking about the garden.
2. Dean:- This tent can't be too bad, we haven't killed each other yet!?
3. Teresa:- It may not be what we planned but we have laughed a lot.

(At our campsite in the Fox River - after two days...)

1. Teresa:- Where are you sleeping tonight Neville???
2. Neville:- (referring to the campsite) What a mess we live in.

(When we had some unexpected visitors..):- They could have warned us, we would have tidied the place up a bit.

ROCKBURN 18-20 JAN - PRIVATE TRIP

It is evident that Neville's car must have a serious case of perambulophobia, (fear of tramping). It threw its engine through its radiator the day before the Christmas Trip and ploughed into the back of some other innocent car the day before this trip. One wonders if perhaps the car over-played the symptoms slightly!

However, against all odds we did manage to get away after Neville's dad volunteered (?) to drive there and accompany us on the tramp as it wasn't going to be too arduous. It will be, I think, the last time Sam accepts Neville's estimation of "not too arduous".

The game-plan for Saturday was to hop over Sugarloaf pass from the Routeburn to the Rockburn and join Teresa who had been at Theatre Flat since Friday, for lunch. After climbing the pass in inclement weather and a moments indecision at the top of the pass in poor weather, we eventually all emerged into sunshine and clear skies in the Rockburn and were greeted with a welcoming brew from Teresa.

The afternoon was spent lounging/fossicking (the two becoming somewhat indistinct) on the bump known locally as 'Janus Knob' or 'The Rock Garden'. While there, a precedent must have been set in the category of 'the number of photos taken of a single Kea in its natural environment' and similarly, 'the number to photos taken of people taking photos of a single Kea in its natural environment!'

While the others walked back to camp, Teresa and I rounded off the day by fossicking along the river supplemented by some rock-hopping for me and sort of river sloshing for her.

That evening was spent under the overhang on Theatre Flat and was followed by Irish or Caribbean Coffee. After sundown we were entertained by the antics of the resident mouse troop, after which Neville rewarded them with the corrupting effects of Ryvita and Rum mixers. Needless to say, little activity was seen from these mice the next morning.

Sunday saw two of us take the plunge into a vaguely warmish pool (says she), but we won't mention the pikers (N & S). The rest of the trip was mostly uneventful except for the matter (hardly worth mentioning really), of a rock ending up in Teresa's pack. Me thinks Neville and I are about to suffer in ways as yet inconceived by humankind.

My thanks to all of the party for just the sort of start to the year that I needed. (Even if I don't live long enough to enjoy it!)

Party: Neville Mulholland, Sam Mulholland, Teresa Wasilewska and Dean Petersen.
(scribe)

FOR SALE

TWO SLEEPING BAGS FAIRYDOWN LIGHTWEIGHT \$150
 FAIRYDOWN DUO-FILL \$150

BOTH BAGS HAVE BEEN CLEANED AND ARE IN GOOD CONDITION.

ALSO ONE 18-SPEED WOMAN'S TOURING CYCLE \$350.

Call Eric or Julie, Ph 454 4043 (H), 477 2289 (WJ), 479 7662 (WE) or Fax 477 5413.

All proceeds to the E & J Lord MTB Fund!

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Best wishes for the new year, I hope it lives up to all expectations.

The club appears to be ticking along nicely.

It's pleasing to see so many members active with Bushcraft. Antony deserves a pat on the back for all the organisation and motivation of us all to help. WELL DONE.

It's great to see the cans rolling in, we're making about \$15 per month out of them. We're keeping a track of the money raised so it can be used for projects that benefit the club, so if anyone has any suggestions tell a committee member. Projects under consideration at present are, "photo history of the club" and/or something for gear hire. Probably the major obstacle facing the committee this term is the subject of "life membership" some decisions need to be made and perhaps some more stringent guidelines laid down. If anyone has an opinion they would like to express write to committee or the bulletin. On this issue we want to represent the opinions of the majority of members.

The condition of the clubs property "Ben Rudds" is a hot issue at the moment, which Richard Pettinger is trying to take in hand. He has a clean up and revegetation timetable organised and needs heaps of help to implement it, so when Richard asks for help please say yes. Richard has put alot of time into the project so far and with our help we can make some major headway before winter. If you've never been to our property before, a couple of workparties coming up would be the perfect opportunity to see the property.

Committee meetings are always the 1st Monday of the month, and are held in the clubrooms from 7:30pm, all are welcome to attend, we try to keep them "short and sweet" and we always have biscuits, so if you're interested please come along.

With the varied trip list, interesting social programme and lots of new faces around the club we can look forward to an active year.

Cheers
Elspeth

BENN RUDDS' UPDATE

The 10 Feb workparty to remove Himalayan honeysuckle seedlings plus other young nasties went well despite the extreme heat. Many thanks go to Peter Mason, Dave & Sue Levick, Stu Mathieson, Jonette Service, Sharon St Clair-Newman, Margaret, Don Cocks, David Peacock, Eric Lord, Tim Moore, Shirley, Malcolm and Dougal McQueen & Darcy. We hand-pulled gorse, broom, ragwort, small pines and rowan trees, blackberry and foxglove as well as the honeysuckle in the hope that the natives amongst it all will benefit from the temporary reduction in competition. Rotting timber and slash is actually providing a useful nursery for many small plants. As well as continuing to remove unwanted competitors, it was thought that any spraying or soil disturbance should be avoided if at all possible, to help encourage the natives to prevail over the nasties. We came to the conclusion that timber and slash on the site of the big plantation should not be touched - there's not much accessible firewood there and it's starting to rot. It's more use to us undisturbed.

Large exotic trees include sycamore, rowan, silver birch, macrocarpa(?) as well as the larches, pines and firs. These should be killed standing with Metalex or similar copper preparation introduced into the heartwood via drilled holes. Some trees were felled by Stu and Malcolm on the workparty and Dave Levick took a team to cut tracks for ready access to stands of trees that need to be felled. A few isolated trees that are conspicuous in the landscape could be felled but most are probably more beneficial left standing (as long as they will not shed a single seed ever again!).

Timber that could be taken for firewood is found mainly in two spots: the chick heap at the down slope edge of the big turn around area; and the newly felled *Pinus nigra* and *Radiata* below the fire-break reaching to Pineapple and Swampy. The former heap is quite old and dry but hard to get at. There is clay and dirt mixed in with it. The latter source of firewood is still heavy and green and it is scattered over a wide area with lots of natives in amongst it. If it is to be removed, it must be done without damage to the soil or native vegetation.

Firewood contractors are NOT INTERESTED. One man told me that the firewood supply business is oversupplied with pine wood at the moment. They have more than they need for the next year. If anyone knows of a contractor who is prepared to abide by our stringent environmental protection requirements to get pine wood, let me know. I have been approached by individuals who would like to take small amounts for their own use (for a donation to the Club). Such activities will need to be monitored. I alone have the Club's key to the gate.

The Committee will need to decide on how much wood should be removed. I'm tempted to suggest that most of it be left. It will have rotted away completely in a couple of decades. What do members think?

In the meantime, apart from monitoring small scale removal of firewood, the Club needs to keep at the small natives and think about revegetation work in May. Peter Mason is going to hand spray a thick patch of small gorse seedlings where there are no native species present. Standing trees will be drilled and poisoned at the most effective time. And I will continue to extend an invitation to all to pull out any nasties they pass during their wanderings on the property. (Don't mistake Himalayan Honeysuckle for fuschia though... There are some chick mats of the latter.)

The mother of battles is on and there's no doubt we will win.

Richard P.

YOUR VIEWS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

From the September 1986 Bulletin: "At the Annual General Meeting of Thursday 28 August 1986, the OTMC took great pride in bestowing the honour of LIFE MEMBERSHIP on 3 long-serving club members. Long may they continue to be active and hearty members of this club. Congratulations and best wishes to: Ken Mason, Bruce Mason, Richard Pettinger."

As one of the three honoured I feel that the record should be set straight regards Don Greer's following statement in the February 1991 bulletin: "...in my opinion no particular member has, during that time, (some 14 years) performed such exceptional service as to merit nominations for Life Membership."

Ian Sime's letter states: "Very few of us can have any real idea of what they have done. Knowing it could be an inspiration to us."

We feel we earned our Life Memberships. Here, with some explanations of prevailing conditions is KDM's record:

- *Joined the OTC March 1964 - 9 months later was on the Club's 12 day Olivines Xmas trip.
- *The Club's Milford Track Freedom March, Easter 1965. (party member)
- *Committee member 1967-68
- *Chief Guide 1968-69, 1971, 72, 73. A very active period for the Club. 1971 saw 264 man ascents of 85 different peaks.
- *Vice-President 1973-74.
- *1974-76 N.Z. Walkways Initial Steering Committee. F.M.C. rep.
- *1976-1985 Otago District Walkway Committee. FMC knowledge guided this committee. I was the only member to do regular field checks or inspections over much of the 12 year period.
- *Held Hon. Ranger positions for Mt Aspiring National Park and N.Z. Walkways.
- *Mountain Safety Council Instructor 1970 →. Served on the formative Otago Mountain Safety Committee-- instructed at Instructor Training courses and on S.A.R courses.
- *Organised and formed 8km of new tracks in the Catlins.
- *OTC 50th Anniversary 1973 - gave the historical slide talk.
 - prepared the historical photo pages for the 50th Anniversary Outdoors.
- *OTMC 60th Anniversary 1983 - gave a historical presentation.
- *First instructed for the Club in 1967 - involved in every Bushcraft Course since then.
- *Have run or taken a major role in the following courses/instruction: Advanced tramping, basic climbing, advanced climbing, rock climbing, caving, snow caving, downhill skiing, ski mountaineering, x/c skiing, SAR. These have all been done for or through the Club.
- *Lead numerous trips including organising a 12 - 24 day Club trip to the Olivine Ice Plateau, Northern Olivines/Arawata.
 - (3 air drops for 24 club members in 6 parties)
- *Numerous talks on a diverse range of topics of interest to the Club.

Have been involved in many recreational and environmental activities that have been in the Club's areas of interest. Of these several in the local area have given great satisfaction being largely solo efforts.

Local Personal Achievement Highlights.

- * Negotiating with the N.Z. Forest Service to reroute a new road well below Hightop rather than over the summit and keeping pine plantings below the road.
- * Halting the bulldozing of a fire-break road along Rocky Ridge.
- * Preventing two attempts to firebreak/road Green Ridge. (there have been subsequent attempts.)
- * Convincing the National Walkway Commission in Wellington to create the Silverpeaks Walkway (a) to protect the 'spine' linking 23 recognised tramping routes from roading.
 - (b) to involve the Lands and Survey Dept (pre DOC) in the area as a prelude to getting the current Silverpeak Scenic Reserve status.
- * Initiating the Bethunes Gully Walkway, the Swampy Spur - Leith Saddle Walkway and the Tunnel Beach Walkway.

Current Involvements.

- Establishment of three walking tracks in the Dunedin area and one in the Catlins.
- Researching and producing a comprehensive historical display for the new clubrooms.
- Continuing to lead Club trips and give talks after 27 years continuous service.

Richard Pettinger has done a tremendous amount of largely behind the scene work especially in protecting our local tramping resource. He is currently reactivating momentum on our Ben Rudd property projects.

Bruce Mason, apart from a notable Club involvement, has been for many years a major influence in the direction of New Zealand's outdoor recreation. He has had a large role in safeguarding both the trampers' and general public's rights of access to all manners of public land and the retention/acquisition of recreational land.

Bruce's commitment to our outdoors is unique in New Zealand. In my opinion just his being associated with the DTMC is an honour.

I believe the way the Life Membership issues have arisen reflects the way the committee has mishandled the issue and I and others will be looking for explanations at the next AGM.

Ken Mason

H. D. Mason.

— CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...

Regarding the article on Life Membership by Don Greer. The first sentence of the fourth paragraph should read -

'Inevitably then, the position arises where persons of equal merit are treated quite differently, ie; some are granted Life Membership whilst others are not even considered.'

The Editor,
O.T.M.C.,
Dunedin.

11th February, 1991

Dear Sue,

With reference to the latest club bulletin [Feb.1991, No.495] I wish to comment briefly and anonymously [sorry,new member who doesn't want flack yet!] on the Life Membership Issue.

Firstly, thanks to Don Greer for his clear and informative article-also to Ian Sime for his precise summary.

a/If, as Don's article says,the question was considered and reported in 1985, why rehash old ground now? Do we follow Parliamentary procedure in the O.T.M.C. with reports made, but not implemented?

b/15 Life Members as per "88-89 Outdoors" I checked this myself. Ridiculous! There are NO clubs I know of that have this number proportional to their membership. Wherein is the prestige and dignity of this meritorious award?

c/While not necessarily a main criterion, I do believe length or service to be an important part of this honour.

d/Why have I never heard of nor seen some of these people?

e/As a relative and friend of several Life Members of other Clubs and Organisations, I believe strongly that our Committee must consider very carefully, any recommendations for Life Memberships, if this is to remain a worthy and significant award.

Sorry for no name,I haven't the confidence yet. Wait a year or two.!

ME !!

WOODSMEN'S ANNUAL EXAMINATION SECTION 3: ENGLISH.

READ THE FOLLOWING EXTRACT CAREFULLY AND ANSWER THE QUESTION BELOW.



"I STOOD THERE WITH MY CHAIN-SAW AND WATCHED THEM ALL SWAYING SLOWLY TOGETHER IN THE LIGHT BREEZE. HUSHHHH THEY MURMURED TO THEIR LITTLE ONES BELOW AS GENTLE EDDIES TICKLED THEIR SHIMMERING LEAVES. AHHHH THEY SIGHED AS THEIR MIGHTY BRANCHES REACHED OUT TO FEED ON THE HOT HOT SUN."

WHAT IS THIS WELL KNOWN AUSTRALIAN WRITER TRYING TO CONJURE UP?

(10 MARKS)

A really good
excuse for not
working on a hot day.



Put up a notice,
"LOST or STOLEN or STRAYED!
TERESA W'S
PENGUIN KNICKERS
SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MISLAID
LAST SEEN
WANDERING VAGUELY:
QUITE OF THEIR OWN ACCORD,
IN THE MEN'S SHOWERS AT TIROHANGA
- FORTY SHILLINGS REWARD!

-Borrowed from A.A.Mi
and modified

OTAC Hot Gossip

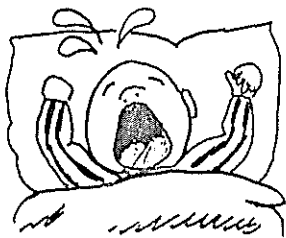
Bushcraft SAR contacts usually dread calls from various mothers, husbands, etc panicking about the late arrival of their loved ones. But the only call we got for Silverpeaks was from a Club committee member and MSC instructor, before the bus was due home. Don't panic Rhonda, he'll make it to the wedding.

Who's the sexy (??) octogenarian in the hot pink harem pants? He was seen at a Bushcraft meeting flaunting himself unashamedly.

Mike Floate seemed to have developed a very noticeable lisp at the same meeting!

Congratulations to Pam & Wayne Hodgkinson

on the birth of their second daughter.



Heard at the Bushcraft Barndance -

"She (Bernadette, the dance caller) felt old age creeping all over her."

Richard served us all with beer "milkshakes" after the Ben Rudd's work-party. He insists it was because the beer was shaken up too much on the trip up the hill (about 5 hours previously!).

POLISH ROCK COLLECTING PENGUIN

-not native to NZ. Often found in the Rockburn River, swimming in unbearably cold water. It carries rocks around on its back. May shed feathers or change colour with mood. May take to flight when angry.

(Be warned Neville!)



WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The programme for the next few weeks....

- Mar 7 Early climbing in the Darran Mountains - By Assoc. Prof. Philip Houghton.
- Mar 14 Basic Instruction on Photography and Cameras - ideas for tramping photography by Laurie Weston of the Dunedin Camera Club. Do take note because Laurie will be back to judge our annual photo/slide competition.
- Mar 21 Mt Kinabala (Sabah) and Mera Peak (Nepal) - a couple of wanderers in Asia - courtesy of Richard Pettinger.
- Mar 28 No club night due to Easter
- Apr 4 Taking your managers to the hills - Trevor Pullar is sharing his career with fellow trampers. This talk is all about communication, trust, goals and confidence, and team development. Tramping provides a lot of this.
- Apr 11 Otago skinks: Deep in the schist - Graham Loh is back with another great talk about nature, this one is a specialty of his.

Kind regards Julie

OUTDOOR RECREATION GROUP

Meeting is to be held on the 26th (Tuesday) of March.
Starting at 7:30pm at the Clubrooms.
Stuart Mathieson - 453-4359

DOWN HILL SKI WEEK - CRAIGIEBURN ARTHURS PASS

AUG/SEPT 1991

If you are interested in a six day ski week at Craigieburn sign interest list at Clubrooms or ring Stuart Mathieson 453-4359.
Cost approx \$300 which covers accomodation, tow fees (rope), daily instruction and food.
If reasonable interest is shown, I will do a full promotion one Thursday night with slides and details.

OUTDOOR FIRST AID COURSE

WHERE: Waioira Scout Camp, Whare Flat
WHEN: Fri 5 April at 7.30pm to Sunday 7 April
COST: Approx \$30-40 (food not included in this cost)

The course will be a certificated course and will include first aid applicable to tramping. Bushcrafters and Club Members are welcome. See Teresa Wasilewska if further information is required.
