

OTAGO TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB (Inc.)
P.O. BOX 1120
DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 1992
BULLETIN NO. 506

Registered at P.O.H.Q. Wellington for transmission by post as a magazine

HAPPY

NEW

YEAR

1992

THE OTAGO TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
MEETS EVERY THURSDAY
7:30pm
AT 3 YOUNG ST
(clubrooms)

PRESIDENT	Elspeth Gold	477 1142
VICE PRESIDENT	Peter Mason	473 7636
SECRETARY	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
TREASURER	Eric Lord	454 4043
CHIEF GUIDE	David Barnes	454 4492
EDITOR	Neville Mulholland	464 0187
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Dean Petersen	464 0325
SOCIAL SEC.	Peter O'Driscoll	453 0593
GEAR HIRE	Sharon St Clair Newman	453 5317
ORG CONVIENOR	David Levick	473 8427

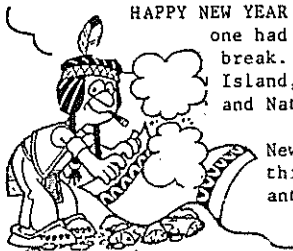
TRIP LIST

- FEB 15-16 BUSHCRAFT TIROHAUNGA
No club trip.
- FEB 22-23 BUSHCRAFT SILVER PEAKS
No club trip.
- MARCH 1 BUSHCRAFT RIVER-CROSSING
No club trip - but those wishing to brush up on their skills or who are able to instruct should contact Elspeth Gold ph 477-1142.
- MARCH 7-8 BUSHCRAFT OHAU Antony Pettinger 473-791
This is a club trip as well as a Bushcraft weekend. Ohau, as always will be a great venue with lots of trip options. Bushcraft instructors and ordinary club trip participants should sign up by February 27, or see Antony Pettinger.
- MARCH 8 THE NON CYCLE TRIP (M) Eric Lord 454-401
Eric Lord is going to have his feet firmly on the ground for this day trip. Probable destination Powder Ridge.
- MARCH 15 PINUS PULLING - MAUNGATUA (M) Pam cocker 454-591
Probably led by Pam Cocker but if she's in Westport contact Day Trip Convenor Justin Calder ph 476-1235 for an update. This trip is a joint venture with DOC, who are providing guidance and logistic support. A great chance to "put something back" by taking something out, and a great day trip venue. NOTE: 8am start.
- MARCH 21-22 MANAPOURI - TITOROA (M-FE) Ken Mason 476-241
A quick jaunt to this spectacular view point in Fiordland. (No E or EM trips this weekend).
- MARCH 22 HUNTING FOR GIANT SKINKS (E) Graham Loh 487-611
Bring your binoculars for this safari with our clubs very own authority on local lizards. Possibly numbers limited, so look out for a trip list in the clubrooms.
- COMING UP - Eglington - Hollyford - April 4-5
 - Arthur's Pass - Easter
 - a new trip card - ideas needed now.





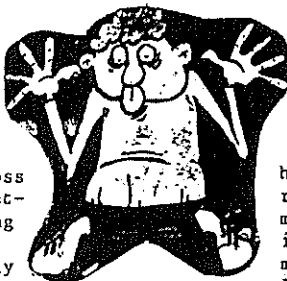
EDITORS DIARY



HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY!! Yes it's 1992 already. I hope everyone had an enjoyable, relaxing and refreshing Christmas break. I certainly had a very enjoyable time on Stewart Island, battling sandflies, mud, sunburn, Elspeth, Fiona and Natalie on the Christmas club trip.

There are many exciting events happening in the New Year. Bushcraft will have started by the time this Bulletin comes out. Bushcraft is a very important time in the Club's calendar as there are many new faces being introduced to the tramping scene. This year we will all be very pleased to be able to welcome back not so much an old face, but certainly a familiar one, Teresa! Yes, that's right, Teresa Wasilewska has returned to Dunedin at last, in hot pursuit of Arthur. Rumour has it that there may be a wedding in the near future.

Now on not such a some news circulating Cocker are about to Westport because of a Ross and Pam have been years now and have been many different ways. Ross Bushcraft courses in inst-roles, as well as leading Pam has also led some club. Both will be sadly we might have to do a few



happy note, there has been the club that Ross and Pam leave us and return to transfer within Ross' job. with the club for many involved in the club in has been involved in many ructing and co-ordinating many trips with the club. interesting trips for the missed in the club. Perhaps club trips to the West Coast!?

The O.T.M.C Marathon was held on the 1st of February with eight competitors. Russell Godfrey came in first after about 11½ hours.

It is good to hear of the hut maintainance that Peter been carrying out at Jubilee Hut and of the work that DoC's volunteer workers have been doing in the Jubilee Hut - Stream. The workers have been doing some track main-tainance, including cutting the track down the Devil's Stair-Case.

There has been some news of a recent DoC proposal to build a 20 bunk hut in the Silver Peaks probably near Jubilee Hut, possibly to replace Jubilee Hut. The Club Committee would like to hear peoples views on this proposal either in the form of letters to the bulletin or letters to the Committee.

The Mountain Safety Committee (MSC) have recently released a brochure on which fuels may be used safely in cookers for tramping. Any one interested in a copy of this brochure can contact T.L. Beggs Sports in Filleul St Dunedin.

Well that's enough from me for this month.



HAPPY TRAMPING.....

N.W. Mulholland

ON THE ROAD TO AHURIRI

5.55 pm, Elspeth arrives with the van. Packs in, mattress ontop, in we piled and away we went. There were eleven in the van, and three in a private car which had left at 4.00 pm. First stop was Oamaru for dinner.

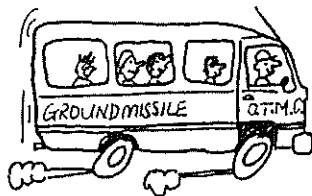
Arrived Oamaru 9.30 pm, with just over half a tank of petrol we took a left turn at the junction. Conversations and stories were going on in the back, while our President, Elspeth was doing a great job of driving. Fourty minutes down the road and heading well through the Lindis pass. I looked up and commented that maybe we've gone past the turn off, as last time I went to the Ahuriri we arrived around 10.00 pm. Out came the map an we turned back, arriving back in Oamaru without a sign of the turn off, all eyes had been on lookout.

While back at Oamaru we decided to play it safe and get some gas. We tried the zip zap card machine to pay for the fuel. No luck! Either it wouldn't except, or no funds available. Damn thing was broken. Tried petrol station number two, same thing with the machine.

The fuel gauge showed now just below half. Out came our NZMS DIADEM S108 map. A meeting between us all, came to the conclusion that it wasn't going to be more than 100 km return, and our fuel would be enough. Back at the Oamaru junction and some one decided it wasn't a left turn, instead a right, as just out of Oamaru on the road towards Mt Cook, you cross the Ahuriri river. Then as the map showed the Quailburn road, on the left, 6 km out of Oamaru. Down it we drove then a left down Henburn road, arriving at Quailburn Down farm. Some where down here we must of passed, a turn off. Before we knew it, we were driving around an empty paddock, underneath a row of pylons. Through another gate, and it was in circles around an airstrip. By this stage we were all nearly pissing ourselves with laughter. We stopped, out we got, and another look at the map.

Car lights were seen close at hand, must of been the farmer, checking out what the hoons were upto in his paddocks. If we were where we thought we were on the map, we should of had no problem. It was a unanimous decision to return to Quailburn Down farm and ask directions. By this stage it was after midnight, and the president and her two co-drivers done an excellent job in finding out that Henburn road doesn't even meet the road up the Ahuriri. The van filled with laughter as we headed back to Oamaru, and this time we were going to have to call out the man at the petrol station for gas. Our President then took to the phone for a call out. As none of us had a phone card, Elspeth contacted the operator. She wanted to know Elspeth's home phone number so as she could charge the 20 cent call onto her phone bill. The call out number had no reply.

Decided as petrol now was the major factor, we headed on upto Twizel. Petrol stations call out number was used by Elspeth and the same operator answered. She must have thought we were crazy, driving from one town to the next on virtually no fuel. Even the local bobby in Twizel was approached by our leader the President. Although I must admit she couldn't of made much impression on him, as he didn't end up offering us any fuel, instead a comment of it would of been better to stay at Oamaru, and that a full tank of gas was alot for a trip from Dunedin to Oamaru. If only he knew where we had really been.



It was now 1.00 am, most of us, had been sleeping, for some of the time. But, even so it had been a long night. So we decided just to head back to Omarama and camp beside the river, and wait until 7.30 am when the petrol station will open.

Saturday morning not only brought fuel but, excellent weather. Finally got away tramping by 9.20 am and compared to the journey up in the van, the weekend was a breeze, and lots of laughs with Sue, Russell and our over seas friend Yvonne.

For those of you, who were on their first club trip, let me tell you, it's not always like this.

Michelle Williams

STEWART ISLAND LIMERICKS

"Anony-mouse"

I know a young tramper named Mary
Even in the bogs she is cheery
But when up to her crutch
She cried "This is too much!
In my next life I'll come back as a fairy"

There once was a tramper of note
He went by the name of Mike Floate
His shorts were so crass,
Though they covered his arse,
They smelt like an old billy goat!

I know an old tramper named Justin
His undies were so dreadful disgustin'
On day number 8
We used them for bait
Now the gales through his shorts are a-gustin'

Our club president, Elspeth Gold
Round Stewart was her plan, so bold;
But her feet they gave out
So "To the PUB!" she did shout
"On this kind of tramping, I'm sold"

HOT Gossip



Where did the rumour about cross dressing come from and what was Fi going to do with a pair of socks???



There was a floating rumour that Keresa W. might be returning to New Zealand. Well. It,s TRUE. She'll be back in time for Bushcraft..

Hint for trampers.

If you think you're getting fitter, go back and look for the tent you dropped. (eh Fiona?)



Here's some resolutions from New Year 1991.

Have they been adhered to???

#Did John G. learn to cook in 1991??

#Has Dennis been supa kind to Rhonde in 1991??

#Did Dean complete at least one trip where he got where he was going to in 1991??

#Has Teresa laughed as much in 1991 as she did in the last three days of 1990??

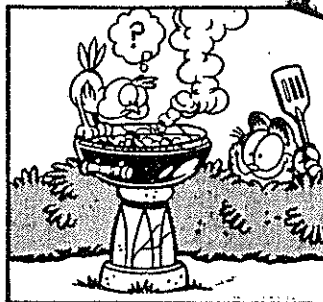
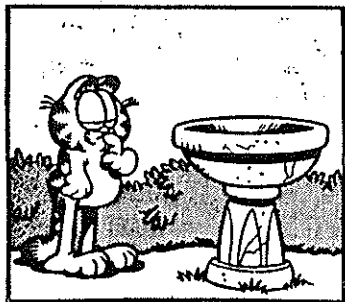
#Danny have you stopped tickling Rosemary yet???



Interesting Facts File.

This year (1992) is leap year. It is a well known tradition that leap year is ladies proposal year. If a lady proposes to a man and is turned down, then the man must buy the lady a new pair of shoes to send her on her way....

Elsbeth is looking at a new shoe wardrobe for 1992, or a husband?!



SANDFLIES AND MOSQUITOES.

...Oh But It Feels Good To Scratch?^{or....}!....
....a Christmas trip to Stewart Island.

Basil the mighty Avenger delivered us to the Southland Aero Club. Only once did he go around a round-about the wrong way.

A 30 minute flight in a single engined piper saw us coming into Doughboy Bay. We were landed on a beautiful island paradise, sun sand surf, and three lovely young ladies, what more could one ask for?...SANDFLIES!?!?

The picturesque bay with its cave bivvy, lots of flotsam and jetsam (junk from boats) and quicksand made for an excellent little lunch spot, (time to start on that sun tan) before heading to Masons Bay. The trudge from Doughboy to Mason's Bay took a bit longer and was a bit steeper than first thought, particularly with packs, which containing 10 days food and gear, felt surprisingly like they only weighed one and a half tonnes.

By the time Mason's Bay was reached we were all feeling the effects of various stages of dehydration, so much so that Elspeths first can of Speight's was consumed upon reaching the campsite. Clouds of sandflies pre-empted the dusk with the mosquitoes soon to follow. Neville bivvied out under the stars, but aborted that at about 3:00am and crawled into Natalie's tent with the sandflies AND mosquitoes.

A reasonably early breakfast was had the next morning before starting our stroll along the 13km long Mason's Bay. After about an hour of walking we had to stop and have a rest due to the excessive weights of our packs, and no wonder, each of our packs had a million wee hitch-hikers upon it. The sandflies from the campsite were all bludging rides with us so they could keep up. Mason's Bay Hut made an ideal wee lunch spot with a fresh water filling point, then on to Little Hellfire Beach.

At the southern end of Little Hellfire Beach we found a nice little campsite beside a small stream, almost on the beach. So we had heaps of fresh water, heaps of drift-wood to build a fire with, and heaps of sandflies and mossies to smoke out.

Rain was falling down the next morning when we woke so we adjourned to Little Hellfire Biv for brekky. Due to Elspeths allergic reaction to mossie bites, so much so her toes looked like 'little purple sausages', and a dose of blisters we decided to let the weather pass and allow the other two groups to catch us up.

Little Hellfire bivvy was quite a cosy wee place to spend a pit day, particularly after we had lit a fire to smoke out the hut and flush out the previous occupants - no, not the sandflies and mosquitoes, the two POMS. The day was spent fishing, being smoked to death by Neville's fire, drying tents, choosing the best camp-sites and of course playing cards. Later that day the other two groups joined us.

A few medical problems - namely Elspeths ankle and infected bites, Fi's blisters, Neville's blisters and Natalie's supposed complete state of good health and fitness, forced a decision to abort our previous plans of doing the Northern Circuit and adjourn to the pub via Freshwater. "That works for me!" cried us all.

It was about now that two catch phrases came into being. First "Sod off you bastard!!!" to the sandflies from Neville, and "I'm not scratching - honest!!!" from El, and later Fi and Nev.

This was only December 28, but guess who should turn up, it was none-other than Santa Claus himself, bearing gifts, balloons and yelling Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year, and apologising for being late. He must have gotten lost some where between Bluff and Ruapuke Island. Santa's wife must have had him on a diet because he was looking rather thin.

While Santa was here we declared an early New Years Eve, and celebrated accordingly - where did all that booze come from???

Next morning we said good bye to Mike and Dean's parties. Then we tackled Adams Hill, which after the heavy rain brought a whole new concept to the relatively simple art of walking down hill. Basically it was a mud shuffle.

Mason's Bay hut again for lunch, a cruisy afternoon playing cards and searching for Kiwis (feathered ones). Then the next day out to North Arm hut via the Freshwater bogs - who-ever built that track had a pretty wicked sense of humour. Board-walk a foot under the bog, and if you happened to miss a board it was a bottomless pit as Neville found out.

New Years Eve, and what a beautiful day it was too. There was a little drizzle in the air but that was a refreshing change from the sun and heat. Time to put on mud covered boots and gaiters.

Our mission, the pub for New Years Eve was achieved. We reached Half Moon Bay at about 4:00pm on 31 December 1991, organised accomodation, showers, chippies and pub in that order!!!! New Years Eve was an experience, the whole island was swinging. Standing room only (if that) in the pub.

New Years Day 1992, a bleary eyed oh-wow its the morning after the night before. A gentle day recovering, exploring Halfmoon Bay with walks to Bathing Beach, Lonnicher Bay and Rangirangi Beach, and generally sunbathing. Elspeth cooked Paua for a complete stranger and enough for us as well. Happiness fuelled we adjourned to the pub again.

Next day was an easy stroll to Port William. We arrived in time for lunch, swimming (most of us) and Paua searching. An entertaining game of spoons, with Moana, Ruth and Melwo we had met a couple of nights earlier, was had by us all that night. A fictional day trip to Big Bungaree was planned for the next day. Only Elspeth had a legitimate reason for not going, but the sun, sand, seafood and board-walks ensured all stayed behind.

Paua was reaped from knee deep water and enjoyed by all at the hut. Neil, Dean and John arrived that night and Elspeth was embarrassed she didn't think to bring some Speight's in for them.

Next day was another leisurely wander out to Oban to have a nice sit-down lunch, pie and chips with a cream cake, in nice clean surroundings. Then off to buy te-shirts to replace those fit never to be seen by human eyes ever again.

Neil gets the prize for being first into the pub. Straight down the hill, parked his pack outside and in he went. Left for a quick shower (45 minutes - who said women take a long time) followed by fish and chips and back into the pub. He was almost the last to leave (even after the locals) and carried his pack home at closing time. John gets first prize for quickest to the fish and chip shop, didn't even stop to take his pack off!! Mike, Mary Justin and Kay all joined us later on and a good night was spent just winding down and relaxing. A pub with no Speight's didn't detract from the festivities too much.

January 6 time to head home, back to Dunedin an 8:00am crossing on a dead flat sea on the "Cat" only took 40 minutes with the odd penguin to be seen out to sea. A cruisy and by far enjoyable trip in excellent company to be bettered by none. A special thank you to Elspeth and Mike for organising it.

Grossest things I've seen for a while -

- 1) Peeing into the sunset.
- 2) Tablespoons of dry milk-powder eaten straight.
- 3) Little purple sausages that were once toes!
- 4) A tooth brush doubled as a nail brush.
- 5) Long-johns used as a hanky and worn the next day.
- 6) Plastic six-pack rings being eaten?!

Xmas Quotes:-

- 1) Well that's the furthwest apart my legs have been for a long time.
- 2) Who said there was mud on Stewart Island??
- 3) I'm not scratching - honest?!
- 4) Silhouette in the sunset. Neville's favourite song!
- 5) There is an art to getting into sub-antarctic oceans.
- 6) Am I wet yet??
- 7) I don't fart, my bottom belches occasionally.
- 8) Sod off you bastards!!!! - to the sandflies.

By Elspeth, Fiona, Natalie and Neville for El, Fi, Nat & Nev.

P.S. See and I didn't even mention the tent...(ED)

Elspeth checking her body for more infected fluid filled mossie bites asked about the two on her forehead. Fiona said they were zits. Elspeth was horrified!!

Elspeth made a run for the door of Little Hellfire Bivvy before she let go a smelly, she didn't quite make it in time. Fiona asked when can we get a new Pres?!

Improve Your Knowledge Dept:-

The Maori name for Stewart Island "Rakiura" means "island of glowing skies."

Full marks to N***** for thinking he could improve a Sterawt Island sunset! (or was he saying "Welcolm to Little Hellfire Beach, have a nice day"?)

(***** - Censored - ED)

To a beach called
Little Hellfire
The OTMC did aspire
New Year's Eve
it came early
(The jokes were so curly!)

Now today we're back
to the MIRE



NATIONAL WALK WEEK
21-29 MARCH 1992

National Walk Week is being run by the Federated Mountain Club (FMC) in conjunction with the Hillary commission. Its objectives are:

- A. To promote walking as a fun, healthy, social activity for all ages.
- B. To provide the public with an organised introduction to walking.
- C. To provide information on the range of walking activities in each area.
- D. To encourage people to join clubs for security, company, information and a sense of community.

In Dunedin there is a local working party comprising representatives of various organisations such as DOC, MSC, Royal Forest and Bird, and other tramping clubs as well as the O.T.M.C.. The Dunedin Co-ordinator is Mike Floate, who is liaising with Sue Scott, National Co-ordinator.

While planning for the Dunedin activities is still in progress, no firm events are planned yet, although we will definitely be needing experienced people to support walkers during the 9 day event.

Most likely by the time you have read this, the first meeting on February 12 would have occurred. If you have any ideas on possible walks etc., feel free to contact either Mike on (03) 473-9780 or Antony on (03) 473-7924.

Remember the motto is "Walk a K a day"!!!

GEAR HIRE.

The Club through the kind sponsorship from the St Kilda Tavern recently bought two new cookers (Coleman Peaks) and two new tents (Macpac Minierats) to add to their stock of hire gear.

People wishing to hire gear are reminded that the club gear should be treated with great care and respect so as not to be lost or damaged..

Thank You..



Hilda's Agony Page.

Dear Hilda.

I am in such a quandry - can YOU help me? I used to be a normal trumper, spending leisurely weekends away exploring valley floors and rivers, having relaxing lunchbreaks and afternoon snoozes, track, the more free-food, and NEVER got The rot set in about a enging tramp AND get-Hilda, I ENJOYED it!! man-eating (sorry, top of a mountain in a scrub attack again to get back down again. I got such a buzzz out of it! I'm not supposed to climb mountains, but I was fossicking one day and found myself on TOP of one - I didn't mean to, honest. Then I started using.....crampons! This was disastrous, because now I have to go places where I have to use them - and it's GREAT. I've started associating with people who do this all the time, and I am seriously worried that I will lose touch with sanity and be overtaken by this addiction - Hilda, how can I face a future where I can no longer parade with the penguins because I am so busy crying with the Keas???? Is there really life above 5000feet???? Please give me hope - what can I do to save myself?????



Your's a fearful fossicker.

Dear A Fearful Fossicker.

I read your letter several times and thought about it for quite some time. I am wrought with fear for your situation. Never before have I seen or heard of a problem of as severe a nature as the one you present. You must be seriously deranged by your state of affairs.

I will offer my advice in the hope you may find a suitable solution, it may be of use, or little or no use at all to you. Firstly, you say you used to be a NORMAL TRAMPER. I didn't think there was such a thing as a normal trumper. I always thought tramping came about as a result of some debilitating mental disease. The desire to swim, particularly in cold or near freezing water is also a result of this disease.

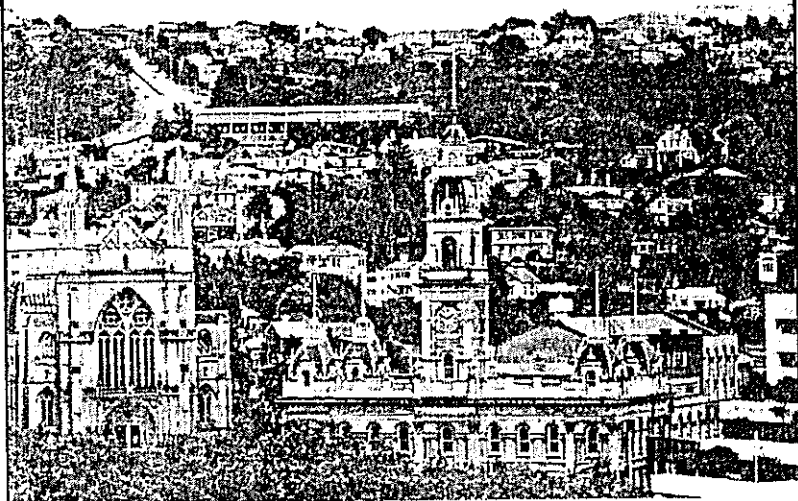
When the rot set in, I think is the time when you should have sought counselling, getting up at 5.00am, or any time earlier than 8:30am can be seriously injurious (I learnt some big words at Christmas) to your health don't you know, at least you still have your superb taste in food.

I've heard of people talk about Man-Eating Scrub, but Non-Discriminating Person Eating Scrub is a totally new one on me. This must have come about with the anti-sexual and racial discrimination movement. What is the world coming to?? I must ask.

I've also heard parading with penguins and crying with keas denotes some form of sexual frustration!!!! It sounds like you really have lost touch with sanity in a massive way. God only knows what will happen next. I honestly couldn't tell you whether or not there is life above 5000feet, although I guess there could be if you are in an aeroplane. By the looks of it you need all the hope you can get because I don't know if there's a lot you can do to save yourself from your detrimental disorder. Best you pray for another ice-age real soon. You have totally lost touch with all reality and, I guess, no longer have any real control over your own life. Perhaps the best suggestion I can make is that you seek counselling with someone far more experienced in this field than I am. I wish you every success and sincerely offer you my every condolence and hope you get well soon. By the way, what is a Fearful Fossicker???

Hilda

*Things just don't seem the same when the
O.T.M.C Bulletin goes on holiday*



Now We're Back . . .

*. . . the New Year can proceed with confidence.
Together we'll make 1992 a better year.*

The O.T.M.C. Bulletin remains your best means of communication for Trip Reports, Letters To The Editor, News Views and Information, Cartoons, Gossip, Drawings, poetry and any thing else that makes a club bulletin an interesting and exciting magazine to read.



NEWS FROM FMC.

HUT FEES REVIEW - As you will know, the Department of Conservation is currently conducting a review of the hut fee system. During one of FMC's meetings to discuss this, a suggestion was made that FMC negotiate a significant discount on the annual pass for its members. The figure suggested was \$30.00.

FMC would like to gauge Clubs reaction to this suggestion. They are concerned that some FMC members will see negotiations of this sort as capitulation to DoC over the fee system, but on the other hand, we are all aware that the hut fee system is here to stay and FMC want the best possible deal for all members.

Generally it was agreed that \$30.00 for the Annual Pass would be value for money and many non-paying club members FMC has talked to said they would seriously consider getting one if only for convenience and piece of mind. If hut fees rise to \$5.00 as has been suggested, an annual pass would pay for itself in 6 hut nights.

FMC are asking clubs how they feel about this, and any response from OTMC members can be passed on to Antony, (Secretary).

Irrespective of any future negotiations over a discounted annual pass, please be assured that FMC still opposes the proposed Premier Hut ("Track") Pass System, as do all of the clubs that have commented on it, and FMC will continue to oppose this and any other suggestion from DoC which FMC consider unfair and unworkable.

Anyone wishing to air their views on this should get their message to Mike Floate before the beginning of March so he can relay them to FMC.

NOMINATIONS FOR FEDERATION EXECUTIVE AND NOTICES OF MOTION 1992 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (FMC)

Nominations are required from clubs for election of the Executive of the Federation at the 1992 AGM, which will take place in Wellington on Saturday 27 June 1992.

Anyone within OTMC interested in standing should contact the Secretary, Antony Pettinger by the end of March to ensure an application form is forwarded in time.

SPECIAL STOVE OFFER TO FMC (OTMC) MEMBERS

If you are currently thinking of buying a new tramping stove this may interest you. This is a Coleman stove designed to run on unleaded petrol (98 Octane). It is called the Coleman Sportster, and is imported by ASER (Allan Brown Energy Resources). The stove will retail for approx \$125.00 to \$130.00, but as an exclusive stocktaking special they are offering it to FMC members for \$95.00 incl GST. The offer closes on 31 March 1992.

For a stove (or details) send \$95.00 to

ASER's FMC Stocktaking Special

ASER

P.O Box 10-055

Te Rapa

Hamilton

More details in March FMC Bulletin.

Antony.

CHANGES TO HUTS AND TRACKS AT STEWART ISLAND

We have recieved information from the Dept of Conservation regarding improvements on Stewart Island.

The *North Arm Hut* at GR295592 will be demolished and a new 30 bunk hut constructed at GR302579. The current "Link Track" from Port William to North Arm Hut will be realigned from the lookout directly down to the new hut site on a dryer alignment. A new alignment offering coastal views, historic sites and dryer terrain would be formed from the new hut site to the current Kaipipi Road walking track. When complete these developments would provide a two or three day short circuit tramping track suitable for short stay or less experienced visitors. This is an i

The *East Ruggedy Bivvy* at GR077752 will be replaced by a 16 bunk hut at GR080748. This will relieve the common overcrowding problems experienced here. Similarly the temporary shelter at *Benson Peak* GR113656 will be removed and replaced by a 16 bunk hut at *Little Hellfire Pass* GR084643. The removal of Benson Peak shelter will enable the coastal track from the East Ruggedy via Waituna Bay to become the main track. This track has the advantage of being significantly dryer and more scenic. The current tramping track from East Ruggedy/Waituna Bay junction to Freshwater landing and from Big Hellfire Pass to Bensons Peak Hut will be regarded as a marked route. (3 to 5 year maintainance). These changes will significantly enhance the remote to wilderness recreation opportunities on Stewart Island.

The tramping track from Hellfire Pass GR084643 to little Hellfire Bivvy is currently undergoing realignment to shorten the travelling time between Hellfire Pass and Little Hellfire Bivvy. The new alignment avoids the undulating ground which is steep, wet and muddy, in favour of the dryer ridge travel. The views from the ridge are also very spectacular.

Changes to track alignments and hut locations will be shown with on site signs and will appear in the 1992 edition brochure "Stewart Island Tramping Tracks". The Dept of Survey and Land Information has also been informed of these changes.

Antony..

BUSHCRAFT 92

Bushcraft 92 started on Tuesday Feb 11, Tirohanga camp is this weekend 14-16 Feb, please feel free to head out and help or just enjoy the atmosphere of it all.

Silverpeaks weekend is 22-23 Feb Jim Driscoll is co-ordinating the trip so ring him at 4550772 if you are going to lead or would like to co-lead a party.

Antony Pettinger is co-ordinating the Ohau weekend 7-8 March ring him on 4737924 if you are going to lead or would like to co-lead a party.

BARNDANCE Saturday Feb 15 at Tirohanga all welcome, bring a plate for supper

If your interested in helping out in any capacity on Bushcraft and I haven't managed to rope you in yet, yell out, I can be contacted at 4771142.

The final evening is on 3 March at the clubrooms.

BARNDANCE Saturday Feb 15 at Tirohanga all welcome, bring a plate for supper
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JUBILEE HUT REFURBISHMENT - JANUARY 1992

One of the club's huts, Jubilee Hut in Cave Stream in the Silverpeaks has been the venue for a recent Department of Conservation Summer Volunteer Work Programme. The team of volunteers, led by DoC officer Chris Stewart spent the last week of January at Jubilee Hut following a few days work by Peter Mason, our Property and maintenance Officer. The hut now boasts a new pot-belly stove as well as work carried out on the exterior of the hut, such as replacing/repairing bargeboards and weather boards and also upgrading the interior hardboard. There is now an external wood shelter and the vestibule has been cleared out. The huts long-term resident, "The Rat", has been dealt with permanently and the surrounding area has been cleaned up with some track maintenance being done further afield.

Also in the Silver Peaks. It will be of interest to some members that a sleeping platform has been constructed in ABC Cave with a seat further back, as well as a recessed table. A water supply has also been installed into the cave.

Antony.



PACK and BOOT hire.
OTMC Discounts.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we hire out tramping boots and packs. The boots are full leather and range in size from (adult male) 3 to 11. Our packs are all the modern internal frame type and most have an adjustable harness as well.

Our rates are as follows:

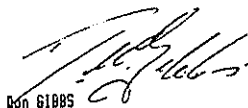
For a weekend (pickup Friday PM return Monday before noon) - \$15.

For a week - \$25, with longer periods being negotiable.

These rates are the same for both packs and boots, and is an inexpensive way of using quality products. Because of demand I would recommend that all items be booked well in advance.

I would also remind members that the Wilderness Shop does offer a discount on production of your club I.D. card. On most items not already discounted this would be 10% for cash or cheque.

Best wishes for the new year,


Don Gibbs

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

- 13-Feb-92 Photography competition.
- 20-Feb-92 Food Dehydrating - How to, now that harvesting is near.
- 27-Feb-92 Glaciers and Climate change - Blair Fitzharris
Blair is a leading authority on these topics so come
and get the real story!
- 5-Mar-92 Yellow Eyed Penguins - Bruce McKinlay
An update on what has and is happening with the Y.E.P.
or Welcome back Theresa!!!
- 12-Mar-92 Mainly Stewart Island - BYO - mainly Xmas trip.
- Future events - Dates for you diary.
- 2-Apr-92 QUIZ Night (David Barnes is getting himself organised)
- And of course the Home-Brew - Winemaking Competition
- Definite dates next month



For Sale.
 Tramping Boots
 Childrens size 2
 Very Good condition
 \$60.00 ono
 Phone Rachel 476-3437

