

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

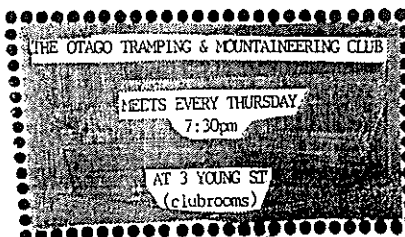
BULLETIN

JULY 1992
BULLETIN NO. 511

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



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TRIP LIST

- JULY 19 CAREY'S CREEK (E) Mary Clark (Mary's not on the
Phone - ring Justine Calder 476-1235 for details)
An easy mid-winter trip.
- JULY 26 JUBILEE HUT (M) David Saunders 477-5075
Journey to the club's number one hut.
- AUGUST 1 - 2 X C SKI INSTRUCTION (M-F) Dave Levick 473-8427
This trip is full already, but Dave is taking reserve names. Note
NOTE New date.
- AUGUST 2 SO YOU THINK YOU CAN NAVIGATE?! (M) Antony Pettinger 473-7924
If you're one of those people who thinks the map's an emergency
fire lighting tool and a compass is a flash bracelet, you need to
be on this trip. Come along and find out how much you dont know!!
- AUGUST 8 - 9 X C SKIING ROCK & PILLARS (M-FE) John Robinson 453-0572
This trip is for skiers of all levels, but you still need to be a
competent tramper. Use the clubs palatial hut.
- AUGUST 9 RONGOMAI RIDGE (E-M) Ian Sime 453-6185
Check out this part of the Silverpeaks. For many club members
this is a seldom travelled part of the Silverpeaks, and from all
accounts, well worth a visit.
- AUG 15 - 16 WINTER ROUTEBURN (ALL) Elspeth Gold 466-7402
"Go travellers unto others boast of mounts like Plunket Dome,
Of Eglinton and Hollyford, or the Peaks not far from home,
Of streams that rush through rocky clefts, or meander oh so slow.
These may be grand, but give to me the Routeburn in the snow."
(with appologies to Thomas Bracken)
From the 1981 Bulletin - what more can I say?
- AUG 22 - 30 X C SKI WEEK (M-FE) Bruce Mason 476-1544
For intermediate - advanced skiers. Venue: Two Thumbs Range. If
you're keen you must talk to Bruce before signing.
- COMING UP: Snowcaving
More X C Skiing
Silverpeaks By Moon Light





EDITORS DIARY



FLOATING THEORIES

Well Hello again. It's time for me to write my bit again.

To start with I have a small (well rather large) retraction and apology to make. Last month in the "Editors Dairy" I stated that most of the progress that had been made on the Otago Peninsula with regard to freedom of Public access to walking areas, has been due to the efforts of the Otago Peninsula Working Party. I have since been corrected on this matter. Most of the progress that has been made on the Otago Peninsula has in fact been due to the efforts of the Otago Peninsula Walkers. My sincerest apologies to Anyone who was offended or misled by my previous statements on this matter in last months bulletin.

I think the Otago Peninsula Walkers have done a great job in securing for us (the public of Dunedin) the right to appreciate the beauty of the Otago Peninsula without having to worry about being run over, or arrested for trespassing.

In recent months there have not been any letters to Auntie Hilda's agony Column. Auntie Hilda is beginning to think that nobody loves her anymore, which is a shame because Auntie Hilda is a very lovely old lady with very sensitive feelings. So if you love Auntie Hilda then show it by writing to her with your agony problems for her to help with.

The AGM is just around the corner. In fact it is on August 20, 1992. If you wish to be nominated or know anyone who wishes to be nominated for a committee position then let Antony Pettinger know before August 20.

Your editor (that's me) has moved (flats that is), I am now residing at 11 Cargill St, Dunedin. My new phone number is 479-1061.

Our dear El Presidente has also changed residences. Elspeth Gold now lives at 23 Falkland Street, Maori Hill. Elspeth's new phone number is 466-7402.

Well that's the end of my go. Everybody have a happy month and do lots of tramping and skiing.

Yours....
Neville Mulholland



NGAI TAHU CLAIMS THREATEN NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION LANDS

NEW CLAIMS

The full scale, significance and threat of the Ngai Tahu land claims is now becoming apparent. They include much National Park and Conservation land which was not discussed before the Waitangi Tribunal. Tipene O'Regan, speaking on behalf of the Ngai Tahu in public announcements, has listed the Ngai Tahu's new ambitions on these lands as follows:

- * Joint title of all or some National Parks in the claim area. These parks are; Fiordland, Mt Aspiring, Mt Cook, Westland, Arthur's Pass, Paparoas.
- * 50% responsibility for management of some or all of these Parks, giving Ngai Tahu effective control of parks.
- * Sole responsibility to control tourism and possibly other concessions in parks. Ngai Tahu have stated that they will give preference to Maori, and to concessionaires with the "right" cultural attitude.
- * Outright legal title to natural features of special cultural value including Mt Cook, and the Takitimu Range in Southland.
- * Ownership of all Conservation lands in the Arathura Valley.
- * Outright title to indigenous production forests in Southland and on the West Coast.
- * Outright title to "some" High Country catchments.

There may be other new claims the Ngai Tahu are making to Government which are still secret.

Mr O'Regan's stated philosophy includes privatisation of public assets to Maori and other groups. His approach to conservation is "conservation for use" and includes the expectation of increased "cultural harvest" of native bird and plant species.

Ngai Tahu has also repeatedly stated that the Ngai Tahu interest in tourism rights in the South Island Parks is for the development of "niche nature tourism" concessions. One recently stated proposal is for a Mono-rail through the Greenstone Valley, an outstanding area and part of the beautiful Greenstone-Caples tramping route. Given this unacceptable approach to "green" tourism we are more convinced than ever that no private interest group should be allowed full or partial control of the management of our Conservation lands.

NEW CLAIMS NOT SUPPORTED BY TRIBUNAL RULING

We are taken aback by the audacity of these new Ngai Tahu claims, the lack of any legal basis for them, and their disregard for non Maori-sensitivities. We are equally astounded and angry that the Crown is negotiating seriously on them in spite of its legal obligations to protect National Parks and Conservation lands in perpetuity.

None of these claims have been debated in public or even before the Waitangi Tribunal. Ngai Tahu made 9 specific

claims before the Tribunal. These are discussed in detail in the March issue of the FMC Bulletin which we suggest you read. The Tribunal found that all National Parks and Conservation Lands in Ngai Tahu's area had been legally purchased, so extinguishing Ngai Tahu's direct claim to these lands.

Evidence presented to the tribunal showed that the areas the Ngai Tahu wanted reserved to them at the time of sale last century were productive lowlands and not the remote wildlands of the Southern Alps and Fiordland, which are everyone's parks, but are now claimed by the Ngai Tahu.

The tribunal also found that Ngai Tahu were entitled to "large and generous compensation from the Crown". The Crown's statutory obligations to protect New Zealand heritage mean this should be provided from productive Crown Lands or by funds for purchase, not seized from the public conservation estate.

CONSERVATION LANDS SHOULD BE SACROSANCT

It is inappropriate to use public Conservation lands to settle land claims. These lands are the nation's outstanding natural heritage. They are both precious and vulnerable. Government has a legal obligation under the National Parks Act, Conservation Act, and other Acts to protect this heritage land and biota in perpetuity. (See box)

These parks have been created through the vision, dedication and sacrifice of a broad section of our community and the greater New Zealand public have supported these efforts. Clearly the Government also has a moral obligation to preserve these National Treasures for the benefit of all those who have contributed to their protection, for the New Zealand public in general, for the biota themselves, and for all future generations.

The management of Conservation lands are in line with Treaty principles now through provisions of the Conservation Act 1987 and the Conservation Law Reform Act 1990. These provision ensure that Maori have a role in Management; their sacred places are respected and that they have access to culturally important plants.

Government should state unequivocally that these lands will not be compromised for claims. In spite of our requests it has so far refused to give any guarantee that it will protect the public Conservation lands. We fear that it is cynically pursuing the cheap but ultimately divisive option of using this land for settlement. Ngai Tahu claim that the Government has already agreed to some of its demands.

LACK OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To date the only participants in these negotiations have been Ngai Tahu and the Government. The general public of New Zealand have effectively been shut out of the process. These new claims outlined above were not even debated before the Waitangi Tribunal. Nor have the public been consulted in any real way by the Government which purports to represent the public interest in these negotiations.

Ngai Tahu claim that Treaty Claims are solely a matter between the Crown and Ngai Tahu. This is nonsense. The fact that Government is also adopting this position gives us grave cause for concern. Adherence to the treaty must not mean that all New Zealanders other than Ngai Tahu are disenfranchised.

FAIR REDRESS IS POSSIBLE

FMC believes that the nation should seek fair reconciliation on the claims. This must be in a way that will give a lasting settlement that all New Zealanders can accept. From then on the claims must be forgotten. Some options that appear to have broad acceptance are:

- * Use of SOE resource land; Forestcorp, Landcorp.
- * Government purchase of private land on the open market as Government now does for Maori fish quotas.
- * Cash settlements that allow Ngai Tahu to purchase land on the open market

Government has many legal obligations to the nation that it must uphold when dealing with the Ngai Tahu claims. Government has already agreed that private land is sacrosanct, after a realisation of the public outrage that unfair confiscation would bring. It has yet to come to the same conclusion about the public conservation estate. Maori claims cover almost all of our country. If private land is excluded then most of the land left is Conservation land. If the Ngai Tahu claim is successful they will have set an unstoppable precedent that other iwi will want to follow.

While restitution for past injustices should be made, we must resist a solution which rights one wrong by creating another as would be the case if Conservation lands were sacrificed to satisfy claims. Such a solution would only create bitter conflict. It would not achieve reconciliation.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The situation is urgent. This is a major threat that most people have so far not taken seriously, perhaps in the mistaken belief that the Government values our Conservation lands as highly as we do. Such assurances have not been forthcoming, and negotiations are proceeding rapidly and in secret. We urge you and your club to discuss this issue and;

1. Support our call that;
 - a) All Conservation lands for which there exists statutory recognition for their conservation &/or recreational value shall not be available for settlement of claims.
 - b) Claims are not to be settled in a manner that affords Ngai Tahu exclusive access to, or exclusive use of, public natural resources of conservation &/or recreational significance.
 - c) Effective control of Conservation lands and species to be retained by Government.
 - d) Government to settle claim with SOE land, voluntary purchase of private lands and/or cash.
 - e) Any claim settlement to be publicly debated before it is finally agreed to by Government.
2. Write to the Prime Minister, Minister of Conservation and Minister of Justice (who is negotiating the claims) expressing your concerns as above. Express your anger that Government is considering settlement using areas that were not even addressed by the Tribunal, and without consulting its wider constituency. Encourage your members to do likewise.
3. Express your concern to your local MP, and organise a delegation of concerned members to meet him/her and argue your case.
4. Publish this article in your club's newsletter.
5. Write to your local paper, and get the issue discussed. Persuade others of our case.
6. Let us know if you support our position and give us moral and financial support.

BACKGROUND: THE NATIONAL PARKS ACT

FMC, which has had a long association with this Act, began lobbying Government for better protection and management of our National Parks as early as 1935 and were instrumental in the passing of the National Parks Act of 1952. Much of the wording of this original act was adopted from FMC principles prepared by the Federation's Executive in 1938. For our members who are unaware of the principles of the National Parks Act as set out in Section 4 of the new and revised Act of 1980) are as follows;

1. "It is hereby declared that the provisions of this Act shall have effect for the purpose of preserving in perpetuity as national parks, for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, use, and enjoyment of the public, areas of New Zealand that contain scenery, or natural features so beautiful, unique, or scientifically important that their preservation is in the national interest".

The principles of the Act further state;

2. (a) They shall be preserved as far as possible in their natural state;
 - (b) ... the native plants and animals of the parks shall as far as possible be preserved and the introduced plants and animals shall as far as possible be exterminated;
 - (c) Sites and objects of archaeological and historical interest shall as far as possible be preserved;
 - (d) Their value as soil, water, and forest conservation areas shall be maintained;
 - (e) Subject to the above provisions the public shall have freedom of entry and access to the parks, so that they may receive in full measure the inspiration, enjoyment, recreation, and other benefits that may be derived from mountains, forests, sounds, seacoasts, lakes, rivers, and other natural features."

The Reserves Act, Conservation Act and Wildlife Act provide similar levels of protection to our other Conservation Lands, their flora and fauna, and the use of these lands by the public.

ROB ROY FOR QUEENS BIRTHDAY.

Marcus Milne, Arthur Blondell, Paul Bingham and Doug Forrester, decided it was time to hit the mountains again. Snow conditions in Mt Cook region were regarded as unsafe, so someone suggested Rob Roy (2615m) Paul, and Arthur had a go at it some time ago, didn't take a tent, bivvy bags would do. Dug a trench in the snow and settled in for the night - it rained - they don't recommend that way now. This time 'lady luck' was on our side.

Queens Birthday and the forecast was for a fine weekend (for Queens Birthday) that's a rare one. Friday night, a few km short of the road end, and we had a warm comfortable night. No women in the party, so no problem tolerating the little creatures of the night. Hard frost and a nice clear morning. Our route was the first gut after the Rob Roy Stream. The Rob Roy Stream is the first swing-bridge you pass after leaving the road end heading for Aspiring Hut. We crossed the swing-bridge, forded the Rob Roy Stream low down, skirted the bush till we got to the gut and then the hard work started, straight up the creek bed, slow going, and at times great care was required. Being a bit icy, it kept our interests up. About 12 Paul and I thought about a bite of lunch would be nice, but the two guns didn't agree. About 1pm Paul and I thought a bite of lunch would be a reviver, but the two guns didn't agree. About 2pm Paul and I thought a bite of lunch was really necessary, but the two guns didn't agree. About 3pm we had a talk to the two guns. After lunch - yes - we had lunch, close to the head of the stream and the snowline. Lots of snow now, we are looking into the Rob Roy Glacier and getting a good look at the High Peak, looks promising and all agree we need a good freeze up on Saturday night for some good cramponing on to the top. About 4pm we made camp. Dug out a platform (Q. What do you call an Irishman with a spade? A. Doug!!) on the side of hens face - at about 2,000m. Paul did a great job under the difficult conditions as chef. Then into sleeping bags and the tent.

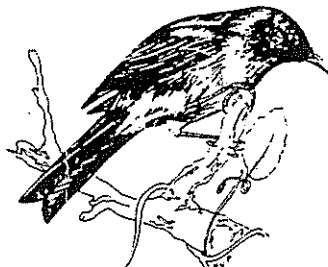
In the middle of winter that's a very long night. Warm in the tent, clear night! It should have froze hard, but it didn't. On our way to the top 8am Sunday morning. Clear sky, but soft snow made it tough going, some big crevasses to manoeuvre, one or two snow bridges and plug plug plug. Once onto the summit ridge (about 1pm) and it's good hard snow and not long to the summit. A beaut view, Aspiring right beside us, looking good. Mt Cook away in the distance, Tasman Sea, Mt Earnslaw, Mt Tutuko, they were all there. Tired but contented bods sitting on the summit in the sunshine, no wind, magic. Descending was a breeze, we made quick work of it.

Back at the base about 5pm. Some of Pauls Magic concoctions and we slept well. Breakfast as the suns rays hit us. Eased ourselves off the hens face, retraced our steps carefully down to the valley floor and wandered home.

If the snow conditions had been firmer it would have been a great trip. Not to worry, we bagged another one.

D.F. for the 4 of us.

P.S. A party from Balclutha followed us up the mountain. They had a video camera, I've sent away for a copy. If you want to borrow it, ring me.



Bellbird

A Solo With My Frames.

I see this big "H" approaching the country, so enough of the asphalt jungle, in went four days food and I'm off, I hooked a ride with the club van and we were in Davy Gunn's Territory about midnight. The hut at road end, a sorry state, no windows, the thieves have taken glass and frames, plus door and mattresses. Tip-toe out in the morning and I'm on my way at 6:30am and it's thinking about daylight. I've got a big day ahead of me to Demon Trail Hut. I'm wandering along on an easy track, light pack, the birds singing, so am I and I'm feeling good and noting how dry the bush is.

This fine weather tramping really appeals to me. Breakfast at 8am Hidden Falls Hut, that surprises the warden who is scratching the sleep from his eyes, the track is fairly quiet. In with Uncle Toby's and I'm off to Pyke Huts for lunch. 11:50am and it wasn't a very good idea as the sandflies are vicious there. I find a porch unlocked so I get my peace in there. After lunch and its just under half an hour to Alabaster Hut. A delightful spot on the shores of Lake Alabaster. Some deer stalkers there, completely taken over the hut, good to be moving on. A very enjoyable mornings tramp to here. Can't say the same about Alabaster to Demon Trail Hut at 5pm and I'd enough tramping for the day. I enjoyed the company of four Germans for the evening.

7:10am and on it goes again for the dreaded Demon Trail. Strange name for a track so I did me some research on it. It seems that many many years ago when they decided to name all the tracks in Fiordland the boss man gave a couple of wallys a sugar bag (no packs in those days) full of names, a few cut lunches and told them not to come back until the sack was empty. It transpired that the Demon Trail track was the last one to be named, in went the hand and out came the only name left. If the DOC boys would crank up the chainsaws and lop a few beech trees on some of the points, (hang him) trampers would get some beaut views of the lake and surrounds, as it is the views are looking at water through the wilderness - pretty limited really. Right oh Hokuri Hut at 11:00am and the scene changes a little here because by chance Neil Drysdale (Neil owns the Martin's Bay Huts, my next nights stop) is there with his boat and nice guy neil offers me a free ride to the coast (four hours tramp) as he is going home. I do a bit of serious thinking and gratefully accept his offer, oh the luxury of it. Really lucky because for \$3.00 he took me on past his huts to the Hollyford River mouth, he looked after my pack, and I was able to wander around and have a look into Big Bay, walk back along the beach, go out leisurely around the seal colony (a really good one) and got back to Martin's Bay Huts about 4pm. The four Germans arrived at 5pm looking weary and booked a plane to take them back to Gunn's Camp the next morning. I was offered a back flight on that plane, from Martins Bay around the coast and up Milford Sound - \$50 - I took it. The backpacker bus at Milford waited for me, took me to Te anau, a hot shower at the back packers, a few beers with the Germans in the evening and home on the bus next morning. I had planned on two long tramping days to the coast, and two back out, but circumstances decided otherwise - was I a victim of circumstance?

Summing up I don't rave over the Hollyford track, there are better tracks. I'm pleased I finally got around to it, and was able to do it in sunny and windless days.

Doug Forrester.

P.S. I guess next autumn it will be "A Solo With My Frames" on the Hauroko/Dusky track. If anyone out there has done the full trip recently I'd love to talk with them about it.

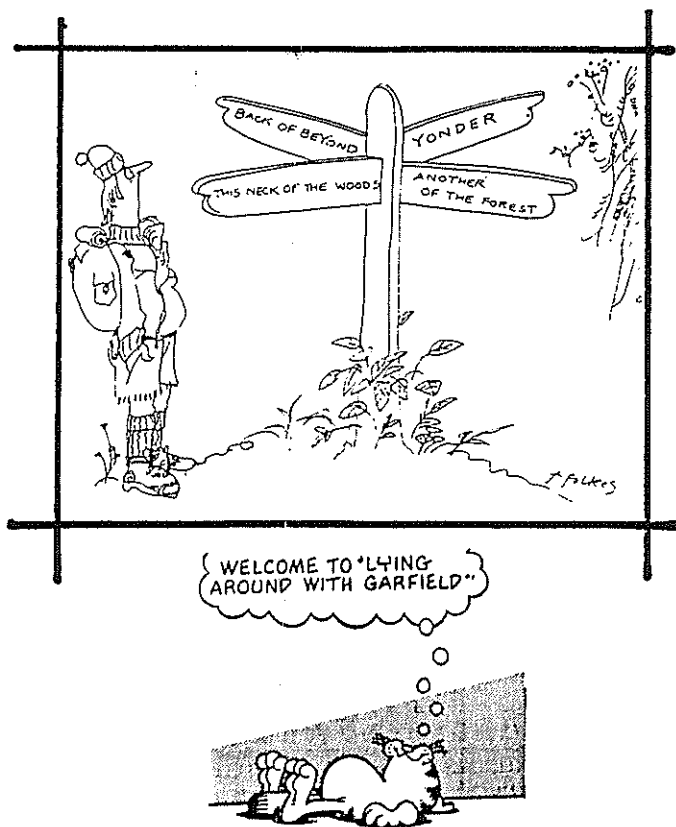
O.T.M.C. 1992 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

THE OTAGO TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 20TH OF AUGUST IN THE CLUBROOMS AT 7:30PM.

NOMINATIONS ARE INVITED FOR ALL COMMITTEE POSITIONS WHICH ARE: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, SECRETARY, CHIEF GUIDE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS. SOME OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL PERFORM THE ROLES OF EDITOR, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, DAY TRIPS CONVENOR, PROPERTY & MAINTAINANCE AND CLUBROOMS, OUTDOOR RECREATION, MOUNTAIN SAFETY, GEAR HIRE, AS WELL AS OTHER POSITIONS.

NOMINATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SECRETARY, ANTONY PETTINGER, AND MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE SECRETARY BY THE 6TH OF AUGUST, ALONG WITH ANY MOTIONS CONCERNING FINANCE OR RULES.

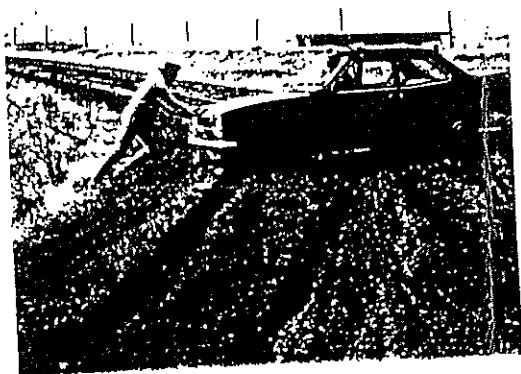
PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB. FOR FURTHER INFO TALK TO THE SECRETARY OR ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER.



An Extract from scandal sheet.

In case you can't make out the photos, they are of our secretary and his wife trying to manœuvre their Blue Ford Escort through some mud.

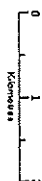
For the goods on this issue ask Antony or Debbie



ANTONY AND DEBBIE OUT
FOR A SUNDAY DRIVE.

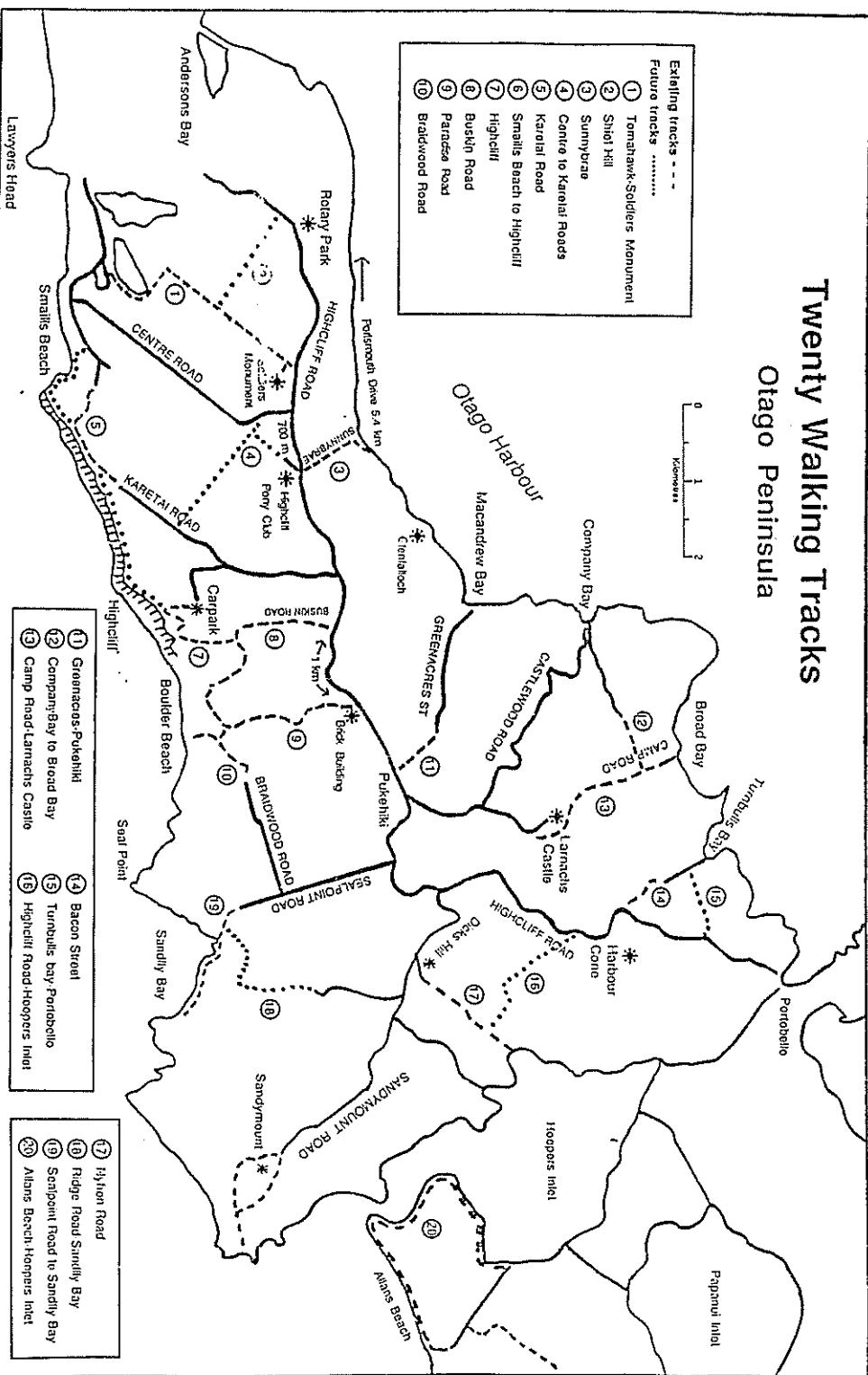


Twenty Walking Tracks Otago Peninsula



Existing tracks - - -
Future tracks

- 1 Tomahawk-Soldiers Monument
- 2 Ship Hill
- 3 Sunnybrae
- 4 Centre to Karari Roads
- 5 Karari Road
- 6 Smalls Beach to Highcliff
- 7 Highcliff
- 8 Bushy Road
- 9 Paterson Road
- 10 Brackwood Road



- 1 Greenacres-Pukehiki
- 2 Company Bay to Broad Bay
- 3 Camp Road-Lamachs Castle

- 4 Bacon Street
- 5 Turbulent bay Portobello
- 6 Highcliff Road-Hoopers Inlet

- 7 Hydon Road
- 8 Ridge Road Sandy Bay
- 9 Sealpoint Road to Sandy Bay
- 10 Alios Beach-Hoopers Inlet

SCANDAL SHEET.

A GUTTER PRESS PRESENTATION.

Have Eric and Fiona really run away to Brisbane together?

Why was Paul going through Lincoln looking for the groins? And why is Molly going to have our bollocks?

There is talk of having some more BYO domestic disputes on the social calander.

Dave Levick must be getting old - he's had a club cheque for 2 months without presenting it.

TODAY'S TOPIC, THE JOY OF
CEILING WATCHING



Dear Sir,

Could you please express my grateful thanks to those sweet, lovely young ladies who so thoughtfully brought a beautiful red rose and gave it to my husband Doug to take home for me. I understand it was bought in the lounge bar of the St Kilda Tavern, no matter. For those sweet young ladies to have done that for a little old lady like myself is very touching indeed.

May your days be filled with kindness.

Marie Forrester



HAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

- 16 July Cross country Skiing - Dave Levick.
A must for anyone intending to attend the
cross country skiing instruction weekend.
- 23 July Auction.
Bring your saleables to the Club's annual
auction!
Under New Management!!
- 30 July Jim Cotter & Ian Edmond - Coast to coast
Both Jim and Ian came in in the top ten
in the Coast to Coast, so they should have
a lot to offer a budding Coast to coaster.
- 6 August BYO Slides and Photos
Get some more use out of the clubs new
Direct Projector and show us some of your
favourite shots off recent or not so
recent trips.
- 13 Aug Jill Buckingham - South America.
Jill is going to share with us some exper-
iences from her recent journeys around
South America.
- 20 Aug Annual General Meeting.
Come along and help to select your new
president and committee, and help discuss
matters which concern the future of your
tramping club.
- 27 Aug President's Panto
Well it was going to be the President's
Panto but now it will be the Past President's
Panto. And if the last one is anything to
go by then this one will be a cracker.
Don't miss it!!!

