

The Bulletin

Newsletter of the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering
Club Inc # 819 May 2021



Upcoming Trips & Events

THURSDAYS ★Antarctica ★ BEACH WALK ★ OTMC 98th Annual ★

WEEKENDS ★Port Craig ★ Stewart Island ★ Aoraki Mt Cook ★ OTMC Snowcaving ★
★Lake Ohau ★Snowdon Forest ★

SUNDAYS ★Victory Beach ★ Otago Central Rail Trail ★ Swampy Summit ★ Rosella Ridge
- Silver Peaks ★ Hevward Point ★ Clutha River Mouth ★

Anywhere is 'within walking distance

Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club, 3 Young Street, Dunedin
<http://otmc.co.nz> <https://facebook.com/groups/otmcnz>
otmcnz@gmail.com

Thursday meeting at 3 Young St, South Dunedin Doors open 7:30 for
8pm start, all welcome

Sign up to our email list: <https://lists.otago.ac.nz/listinfo/otmc>

OTMC Bank Account

The OTMC bank account with ASB is ... 12-3150-0311684-00

Please include your name and the reason for the payment when using internet banking (which is the preferred option). Non-members must pay for trips when signing the trip list, members should pay before departure. Vehicle suppliers/drivers will normally not pay the trip fee and will be reimbursed fuel costs later (check with the trip leader or Treasurer Sharen if in doubt).

Gear Hire

OTMC has a large amount of gear available for members to hire.

Hire charge \$5 for up to a week, then \$5 per week (some safety items are free).

See or phone our Gear Hire Committee member.

- Ice Axes
- Crampons
- Cookers & Billies
- Packs
- Tent/Flys
- Climbing Helmets

Your Committee

President: Position Vacant

Centenary/Website: Antony Pettinger 473 7924 antony.pettinger@gmail.com

Vice President: Sharen Rutherford 027 2291961 sharen.rutherford@gmail.com

Secretary: Joe Bretherton 027 3621221 jsbretherton@gmail.com

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Weekly Updates: Tom Wager 021 0528151 tomwager3@gmail.com

Clubrooms Maintenance: Dave Bunn 029 779 7006

Gear Hire: Ralph Harvey 03 4534330

Committee: Peter Loeber 03 4774895

Bed Rudd's Management Trust

Ben Rudd's Management Trust hosted a very successful day on our club property with around 40 people attending. The main reason for this day was for us to celebrate 100 years of Ben Rudd taking title to what is now the OTMC Ben Rudd's property. Two new picnic tables and a bench seat were 'opened' at the former skid site. Although we had hoped for the skid site to be rehabilitated better by the logging contractor in late 1989, it has now become one of the focal points of the property, and the area that sees the greatest number of people passing by. A big thank you to the BRMT for arranging the day, it was great to catch up with members and supporters we don't see often.

Leaning Lodge

Leaning Lodge

The Leaning Lodge Trust is delighted to report on progress. After years of heartache working out how to make the lodge compliant with the building code, a plan was agreed last year. This was adopted after many site visits, technical reports and guidance from DCC and DOC. The plan is to rebuild an almost identical new hut beside the existing and use materials (eg bunks, benches, windows) from it in the rebuild. A redesign was necessary to meet the stringent requirements for a building in an alpine environment. A milestone was reached with DOC giving its approval via a change to the concession and DCC issuing a building consent.

Now the trust is fundraising, with a campaign launched with a Give-a-Little page and a Facebook page set up by 3 students doing a Digital Marketing paper at the University of Otago <http://www.facebook.com/leaninglodgetrust1> <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-save-leaning-lodge-historic-otago-hut> and an article in the ODT <https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/travel/place-above-plains>

Updates on progress with this exciting project will continue. We invite you to keep in touch via Facebook or contacting trust members.



Whats new?

DOC accommodation price changes 2021/2022

DOC are making changes to their price-setting which have been designed in order to improve their cost-recovery. This includes the a trial of “weekend pricing”
So we will be seeing a difference between summer, shoulder, winter seasons

The more noticeable price increases are for international guests wanting to book Great Walk huts. They are up another extra \$40 a night during the peak season for over seas visitors. Our backcountry huts and campsites have a more modest increase between \$1 to \$5 extra per head.

On the other side of the coin some huts have also seen a decline in cost in order to get more people to the huts, some have dropped up the \$30!

The Abel Tasman and Heaphy tracks have become cheaper for all hikers during winter, to encourage more hikers over the off season.

DoC runs over 900 huts around New Zealand's most scenic wilderness areas. These Backcountry huts cost around \$46m per year to maintain, not including the Great Walks.

Have a look at the changes yourself at:

https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/online-bookings/doc-accommodation-price-changes--20212022/?fbclid=IwAR0Y9hPZUmZNw5Ez6U_NzqQ98b-KvnxCkabhk--HBa-qj4AoJLV3C_Jv9OA



Siberia Hut, Gillispie Pass
Photo Credit: Caitlin
Robertson

Trip Reports

Club Activities Over Autumn

March

20-21st Titan Rocks Mark Stephenson

This was a great trip with fantastic weather at an epic location. It nearly didn't happen. First there was a Covid wobble as we dipped into Level 2 and back. Secondly, there had been flooding and the bridge and track were 'closed'. Luckily, the ranger I spoke to said that, as we were the OTMC, 'you'll be fine'.

We set out from the clubrooms at 6pm on the Friday evening. We had a LOT of gear, but eventually we crammed it all into Clare's Landrover and my Honda shopping-basket. Oh, and eight people: myself, Dave Bunn, Alana Carroll, Clare Noakes, Saskia Bronstring, Sue Williams, Will Baker and Tomas Sobek.

As we drove north up the Southland Plains the sky faded from gold to red to a surreal indigo punctured with stars. A fine night for camping at Piano Flat.

The next morning we set off 'early'. As the first bridge was closed we had to walk up the river to the top bridge and back down the other side. This added 3 hours so we didn't start our climb till about midday.

And what a climb it was. Great bush but steep and relentless till we popped out into scrub and could almost see where we were headed. After that it was steepish and



The summit. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson



The view. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson

the track petered out, leaving us making our separate ways upwards through tussock. It was hard going. Some peeled off to the right and stopped at an impressive rocky outcrop to admire the view.

Saskia powered up to the summit, the Titans themselves, closely followed by Tomas. I puffed and struggled along behind them, but boy, was it worth the effort. From the rocks we stood in warm sunshine in a windless expanse of blue sky. To the south, the plains laid out to Riversdale, Gore and the Hokonuis. To the north and east, the Old Man Range. To the northwest, the Garvie Mountains. It was hard to leave.

The way down was steep and knee problems plagued a number of us, young and old alike. We lost Will for a couple of hours, but found him as expected sunning himself at the campground after a swim in the river.

We had another great evening for camping at Piano Flat with time for river bathing, eating, drinking wine and yarning till sleep claimed us.



The river. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson



Piano Flat campsite. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson

20-22nd Otago Anniversary (3 Days) Lake Roberts - Sunny Creek. Ian Billingham

Six of us made the long drive over to the Divide on the Friday night of Otago Anniversary Weekend. The car with Matt, Sarah, and Meredith left early afternoon meaning they got to walk into the camp site on Greenstone Saddle while it was mostly still light. The second car containing Tom, Rohit, and myself didn't leave Dunedin until 5pm so we walked in in the dark. We startled a Weka at the Divide carpark while putting on our tramping gear, and the bush echoed with several calling Ruru around Lake Howden.

We found the Greenstone Saddle camp site alright but there were several tents huddled in under the trees and bushes, seeking shelter from the wind blowing up the Greenstone from the south, so the three of us had no idea which tents were the others of our party. We found a likely looking spot to pitch tents at the northwest end of the clearing, and when the sun came up

on Saturday morning, we found we were just the other side of a large bush from the others. A couple of hunters camped nearby indicated they were heading to Lake Roberts, but upon being told that was our destination they ended up changing their minds. We later spotted them camped high up on the Ailsa Mountains south of Pt1777.

The first part of Saturday's mission to Lake Roberts was going to involve a nearly 300m bush bash up the mountainside to reach the McKellar Tops. A dense wall of tall scrubby trees lay across the bog on Greenstone Saddle, but it was breached in several places by animal trails. We picked a likely looking spot directly across from us and plunged in. We were soon in a green, wet, world of moss and lichen, twisting and turning our way around mossy trees and clumps of bushes as we made our way uphill. Thankfully the animal trails and open patches were easy to navigate between. After crossing a small stream dropping down the mountainside the scrubby bush soon opened up into small clearings, and as we climbed higher the clearings became larger and larger until finally, we pushed through the last bit of knee high ferns and we were out onto open snowgrass of the tops. It was a short climb from here up to the scattered lakes and tarns which lie around Pt1085.

After crossing the southern tributary of Pass Creek, the second part of today's mission began, the nearly 500m climb straight up the western ridge of Pt1777. The climb was steep but straight forward, the others beating me to the top of the ridge by a healthy margin. I found where they had dropped their packs, so I headed west along the ridge top to where I found them taking photos on a rocky knob. 360-degree views stretched in all directions. We could see almost the entire length of the Hollyford from Lake McKerrow to well past Falls Creek, as well as much of the upper Greenstone. The Darrans, Ailsas, and Livingstone Mountains all stood out clearly. It truly is a wonderful spot. Rohit jumped into a small tarn on the ridge for a chilly dip.

After picking up our packs we donned helmets and made our way down the hill and sidled along the ridge on the Lake Roberts side. The lake lay out of sight in its basin some 300m below until we were almost onto the first of the steep scree slopes which drop down to the lake shore. Pt1777 lay above us at the top of the scree and after mentioning I was interested in climbing it either today or Sunday morning, everyone was keen to climb it immediately.



Lake Roberts Sunset. Photo credit: Ian Billinghamurst

We traversed across the scree and found a place to drop off our packs and scrambled our way up to the summit. From the top were more 360-degree views, including of Lake Wakatipu, much of the Caples, and shear drops down into the unnamed northern branch of the Caples.

Back down at our packs once more we dropped down the scree and snowgrass slopes to our campsite at the head of Lake Roberts. A swim in the lake was enjoyed by all, and we had several hours of sitting in the hot afternoon sun before it finally set over the Darran Mountains beyond the lake outlet. It was some time during dusk where we noticed a stream of people coming over the top of the western ridge and slowly descending the scree to the lake. They eventually made camp near the foot of the slopes, about halfway down the lake and about 20 metres above it. We never saw any of them make the last few metres down to the lake shore which we thought odd, to have stopped after coming 99.9% of the way here.

The next morning the second party departed before us, but we soon overtook them on the climb up, learning they were from the Otago University Tramping Club. One wee dear of about 19 years old said it was

great we were still out here in the hills at our age! For reference, I was the oldest person on our trip at 41!

We carried on up the scree and were soon over the west ridge and descending towards the Hollyford via Pt1197. The sun was out and it was another gorgeous day. Upon reaching the little saddle immediately east of Pt1197 we turned north and dropped down towards the bush line and Routeburn track. The bush-bash here was denser than the climb up yesterday from Greenstone Saddle, but much shorter. We were down at the Routeburn in only about 20 minutes from first entering the bush edge. We were soon headed along the Routeburn to Earland Falls for lunch, (Matt and Rohit had a shower under the falls), before carrying on to the turnoff point for the climb into the Sunny Creek hanging valley.

Leaving the track, we had only gone a few metres when we encountered the first marker pole of a DOC trapping line, which hadn't been here the last time I had been into Sunny Creek. We continued climbing, now following the well-marked trapping line up the hill and along the lower part of the hanging valley where the trapping line skirted along the norther wall of the valley, avoiding the scrub. It crossed the stream and carried on up the hill and we followed it up. Near the top of the climb I was getting leg cramps so had dropped behind. I caught up with the others resting from the hot sun under some rocks. I pointed out the way up the scree slopes to the east which led to the saddle on Pt1611. From here one can lookout over the dying glacier on the eastern side of the Ailsa mountains, and the others soon took off to climb up there.

I chose to carry slowly on up to our camp site at Sunny Lake, on the western side of the valley.



Dying Glacier.

Photo credit: Tom Wager

I reached the lake and found a likely looking spot for our camp site on the southern side of the lake. I had plenty of time for a swim and to dry off in the sun before the others started arriving. They had had great views from the saddle. More swimming ensued, including teaching Rohit the kiwi art of doing bombs off an excellent rock into the lake. The afternoon was spent lazing around in the sun until in the evening cloud wafted in from the Hollyford Valley and obscured our camp site for a while. The cloud retreated down the valley after about an hour and we were able to watch the sky change colours over the Fiordland interior after dusk, above a sea of Hollyford cloud. Matt chose to sleep out on the rocks under the full dome of stars of the Milky Way.

Sunny Lake Camping. Photo credit: Tom Wager



The trapping line continued around the lake and on up the hill to the ridge northwest of the lake so on Monday morning we all decided to follow it up for more views. The Hollyford lay stretched out beneath us and the markers of the trapping line seemed to keep on going northwards into Roaring Creek. It would be interesting to see where they end up, but that's for another trip! Back down at the lake we gathered our things and set off down Sunny Creek to the Routeburn and along to Lake Howden, where we were able to see the devastation wrought to the lake outlet and the former site of Howden hut by the land slide in February 2020. We carried on back out to the vehicles at the

Divide to enjoy a late lunch in Te Anau before the return trip back to Dunedin.

A big thanks to everyone who came along for a very enjoyable weekend of great company and perfect weather.

Ian Billinghamurst on behalf of Sarah Chisnall, Matt Johnson, Tom Wager, Meredith Walton, and Rohit Mohan.

21st West Of Flagstaff. Peter Loeber

Peter (leader) and Leonie Loeber, Ash Flintoff, Debbie Guthrie and Russell Knowles

The day, as promised dawned fine with some cloud and not too windy. In other words, it was good tramping weather.

The plan was to start up at the Bull Ring, go up and over Flagstaff, following the Swampy access through to the top of Porkies and down Porkies.

Then to heighten interest, go up Jim Freeman's track to Ben Rudd shelter for afternoon tea before heading back to the Bull Ring and our cars.

Thus 5 keen people, including myself headed off from the Bull Ring.

We were soon on top of Flagstaff, on past where the Pineapple track junction is and up the track to Swampy where

Moon and McQuilkans tracks join for a relaxed morning tea. The views along the way were good, these tracks we have above the City are a real bonus.



Porkies Track. Hikers: Leonie Loeber, Ash Flintoff, Debbie Guthrie and Russell Knowles Photo credit: Peter Loeber.

Then on up to the start of Porkies to be very pleasantly surprised to find the track had recently cleared and cut and was good tramping. A big thank you to those keeping the tracks clear indeed.

Down to the intersection with McQuilkan track and orientating the map correctly did help confirm which track to take to Possum Busters junction. A couple of stream crossings later we were at the Junction, where it was a good spot with sun for lunch and solving the world's problems.

After lunch we continued down Porkies to the junction with Jim Freeman's track and turned up the hill. The after a bit of a grunt up, we were at Ben Rudds shelter, a first time for Russ, Ash and Debbie.

It's a great little place, but Bed Rudd Management trust (BRMT) people – the grass needs a cut. Afternoon tea followed and then up the normal track to the fire break and back to the cars. On the way up the track we noted all the healthy beech trees BRMT had planted are growing well. Well done BRMT.

Now just as we were about to leave the shelter a keen young runner headed out to the Firebreak track via the rocky short cut. We would have been 1/3rd way down the Firebreak track before he came up behind – the short cut track also needs clearing indeed. So just about spot on 5 hours we were back at the Bull Ring after an enjoyable tramp.



The view. Hikers: Ash Flintoff, and Russell Knowles. Photo credit: Peter Loebarr.

28th Whare Flat to Pulpit Rock. Sharen Rutherford

This was advertised as a fit trip with at least 8 hours of walking so I was pleased to be joined by 3 club members for this challenging day.

Left the clubrooms at 8am and drove to the locked gate end of Rollinsons Road. Parked the car and we were on our way up Rollinsons Road by 8.30am. The weather was good, bit overcast, no wind and mild temperature.

The first track on our journey was Steve Amies Track which provided some serious downhill to get us warmed up. The track was in great condition so good underfoot and the only problem bit was where the track meets up with Racemans Track which requires a lot of care.

From there we followed Racemans Track up stream to where the track intersects with the track which crosses the stream and takes you to the start of the Powder Ridge Track. The stream crossing was straight forward and on the other side we stopped for a short break and breakfast for some approx mid morning.

Powder Ridge Track is beautiful and the first uphill stage provides a good work out and then it gently follows the ridge

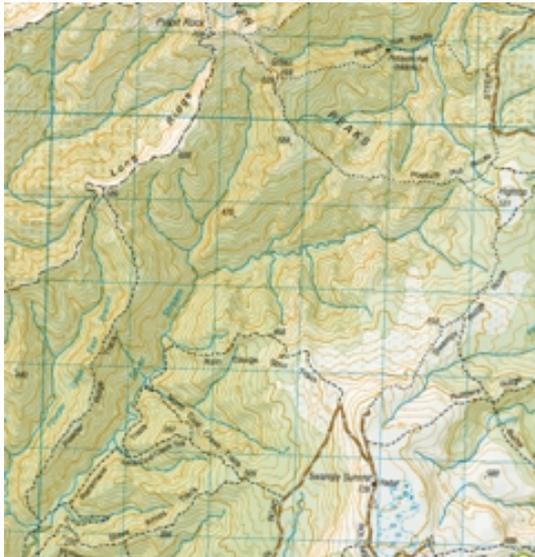


until it meets Long Ridge where there is a rope line for the last steep climb up onto Long Ridge. The views are great and we stopped just over the ridge from the rope line for lunch at approximately 12.30.

After lunch we followed Long Ridge until it intersected with Pulpit Rock. We were at Pulpit Rock around 2ish. Then we followed the Possum Hut Route track to Hilltop and then onto Swampy Ridge. Needless to say Swampy was Swampy in places. Rather than go across the top we took Rollinson track. This was the first time I had walked this track and it was a bit overgrown so looking for markers was key but luckily Tomas has been on the track before so roughly knew where it was heading. Not sure I would call this a short cut as the time is not that much different from going over the top just different outlook and no road walking until Rollinsons track meets the road and then making our way back to the car.

Overall approx 25km with 1700 metres of elevation gained, starting walking at 8.30 am and back at the car by 5.30 so 9 hours all up.

Thank you Mark Stephenson, Tomas Sobek and Tina Anderson for making this a good day out.



Silverpeaks trails. Photo Credit: Sharon Rutherford

April

18th Nicols Creek / Porkies Track Mark Stephenson

One of the main reasons to go on the Sunday day walks (apart from meeting similar like minded interesting people and eating Debbie's chocolate) is to explore a walk you haven't done yourself or to refamiliarise yourself with a walk. Mark offered the chance to climb above Nichols Falls and up to the tops and beyond and that's what we did. A great group of ten people headed off to do this, stopping occasionally to make sure we were on the right track as a few others tracks branched off.

We passed what must be one of the widest tress I have seen in the Dunedin area. A quick morning tea at the top of the moon track and we continued on and down the Porkies track. Good conversation was a bit easier with the downhill leg and along the Possum Busters (who comes up with these names?) track we were making good time. So agreed to walk up the Jim Freeman track to Ben Rudds Shelter where Roger handed out chocolate chippy biscuits.

A thanks to those who have been planting native trees and tidying up the area, it looks great with the new picnic tables and seats. From here it was all downhill, the

popular Pineapple track and then a side track back down to Nichols Falls. With the very low rainfall the tracks were in great condition but the falls and stream were a trickle and this meant we could walk down the creek through a small canyon to the glow worm grotto track and back to the cars. Thanks Mark and everyone for a great day out. Martin Stefan, Saskia Bronstring, Natalie Jones, Tomas Sobek, Debbie Guthrie, Russell Knowles, Rodger Clarkson, Clare Noakes, Becky Race and Mark Stephenson
Russell



Above: The view from Porkies. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson

Below: Nichols Falls. Photo credit: Mark Stephenson



MAY 2021

**1-2 May Bullock Track / Roxburgh
Gorge Jane Cloete**

The weather gods were kind and smiling on us for this weekend trip! Both walkers and cyclists had a good time: no-one got frost-bite and no-one got sunstroke!

In the end there were 14 of us: Jill and Ray McAliece, Kathy Woodrow, Chris Pearson, Russell and Debbie Knowles, Rodger Clarkson, Barry Walker and Helen, Ralph Harvey and we all

welcomed three new-ish members for their first overnight trip namely Judi Zhen, Cara Douglas-Jones and Ruth Thomas; and Jane Cloete (me).

Not that it was an onerous weekend trip. No lugging big packs for us because the 'overnight' bit was in a dry, warm house at the Clutha Gold Holiday Park!

We all met up on time at Roxburgh where we did a car shuffle* for the Bullock Track.

*Sorry about the car-shuffle muddle folks! Both before and after the Bullock track I managed to get tied into knots, so many thanks to Russel, Ray and Rodger for un-muddling us!

We were walking by 10.30 and that track is straight up, taking a bit under 4km to climb 800metres. But there wasn't a cloud in the sky and there were lots of stops for photos, stripping off outer layers, etc so we weren't too exhausted when we got to the rocks at the top for lunch. Great views of the orchards' autumn colours in the valley below. The downhill section was a breeze, mostly on a farm track with a gentler gradient. Overnight at the Clutha Gold cottages

was brilliant. Warm house, warm beds, good food (pot luck) and good company; what more could you want? Up at a leisurely pace next morning. The cyclists did their own thing, going up the Roxburgh Gorge track, where it was a bit windy. Trampers headed first for Grovers hill and 'did' the circuit with no wind at all! Continuing on, the trampers headed for home but stopped for the HorseShoe Bend track. That track was much better than the last time I went – almost no gorse/thistles/mud – and the bridge was open so we could



Horseshoe Bend Bridge. Photo Credit: Cara Douglas-Jones



Frog Rock Lookout as part of the Grover's Hill Walk looking over Roxburgh. Photo Credit: Cara Douglas-Jones

cross and have lunch in the sunshine before returning to the cars and carrying on home, getting back to Dunedin mid-afternoon.

My thanks to my kind and tolerant companions on this trip! Jane Cloete



Grassy Knoll. Photo Credit: Charlotte Handley

2nd May Three Silver Peaks

Tony Timperley

In the Leith Saddle carpark, the Doughty 7 emerged from our warm vehicles into a cold southerly; however, the sky was blue and we had clear views northwards into the hills where we would spend the next five hours. After donning an extra layer we set off down Waitati Valley Road to the start of the Pipeline Track.

Leader Tony chooses this anti-clockwise option, rather than start with the steepish climb up the Leith Saddle Track, so that we may ease our mainly elderly limbs (Apologies to younger trampers!) into into the first hour of our tramp along the flat and gently undulating Pipeline Track. Despite Dunedin having the equal-driest April since records began in 1918, just 12mm, this track was surprisingly muddy. Nevertheless, we reached the start of Rustlers in under the hour and were nicely warmed up.

After removing a layer or two, we grunted up the steep, thankfully bush- shaded ridge until we came out into an open section contouring round to the left and giving extensive views up the coast and over the hills to the north. In my blurb I (Tony) said we would have a “drinks and nibbles break on a grassy knoll,” but the knoll is no longer just grassy; it has become overgrown with other vegetation, luckily not gorse, which meant we had to find a space to sit amongst it. (See Charlotte’s photo.) We were still able to admire the views, however, before setting off on the next stage of our tramp.

From the knoll we descended to the junction with the Burns Track and it was here that we democratically decided to continue ascending the Rustlers Ridge rather than follow the Burns descending to a swamp which we would have to cross, including a deceptively deep stream, before reaching a lower section of Swampy Ridge. (Note how Trip Leader Tony allowed decisions to be made democratically, rather than enforce his leadership.)

Our decision to climb Rustlers was rewarded with wonderful views as we emerged from the bush. (See Leonie's photo of Blueskin Bay and the coast north.) However, when we reached the Swampy Ridge gravel road Tony was forced to allow another democratic decision to be made: either turn left and head straight for Swampy Summit or turn right and go to the end of the gravel road to admire the view over Hightop, Green Ridge and into the Silver Peaks beyond. We chose the latter.



Blueskin Bay and the coast north beyond.
Photo Credit: Leonie Loeber

When we reached the DoC sign, Rob could not contain himself, dropped his pack and continued down the now grassy Swampy Ridge Track. This inspired four others of the Doughty 7 to follow him down to a point just above the junction with Rollinsons Track, which gave more detailed views of the Waikouaiti River valley area. It was a trudge back up, though, especially for those of us who had not followed Rob's example and dropped our packs. We were greeted cheerily by the two (They shall remain nameless!) who had decided to enjoy resting, before we set off towards the start of the Leith Saddle Track.



Trampers on the Leith Saddle.
Photo Credit: Geraldine Kerr

It may be a trudge along the gravel road but the views over the Taieri make it worth while. When we reached the microwave tower we decided not to have lunch being zapped and continued on until we found a sheltered spot early on the flat section of the Leith Saddle Track. Now energised with drinks and nibbles, we climbed to the saddle summit, but

were unable to stop and admire the views as the very strong, cold southerly forced us into a quick descent. Nevertheless, we were able to pause and admire views of Dunedin looking its best. (See Geraldine's photo.)

Once we reached the bushline “tunnel” and fine gravel track, we strode out until we arrived back at our starting point at the Leith Saddle carpark, having done a good five-hour (with breaks) tramp, which was enjoyed by all.

Tony Timperley for: Charlotte and Chris Handley, Geraldine Kerr, Rob Seeley, Leonie Loeber, Malgosia Szukiel.

9th May “Rocks and Views” Charlotte Handley

The weather forecast had me worried that this trip would have to be cancelled. Fortunately that was not necessary and we enjoyed our hike in lovely warm, but cloudy weather. However the group consisted of NO OTMC members, which was rather disappointing.

Fortunately there were two visitors.

We set off up the workers’ track which runs up through the Nicols Falls biking tracks. We then used a combination of walking tracks and MTB tracks to get to the first cluster of rocks and then the picnic table on top of a little hill. Soon thereafter we entered the zone of the newly constructed MTB tracks. These tracks are beautifully crafted, all by hand, rather than with mechanical assistance. We were fortunate to have good views, despite it not being sunny. Thereafter we went on up the Moon Track and from then on we were in familiar territory which I won’t describe.

We enjoyed the McQuilkans, Possum Busters and Jim Freeman tracks before coming down via the Swampy Summit Road, Pineapple Track and then the Shortcut Track and Nicols Valley track. Because the group was tiny we could make it suit everyone. This included giving people who wanted time to walk barefoot the time to do so. It was a long day and we were back at the cars at just before 3.00 p.m. A big thank you to Katie Warburton for showing us the workers’ track, and to Chris who gave up time to do the reces with me. Written on behalf of Chris Handley, Alice Lee and Malgosia Szukiel.



Alice Lee and Malgosia Szukiel.
Photo Credit: Chalotte Handley



Above: Chris Handley, Alice Lee and Malgosia Szukiel.
Photo Credit: Chalotte Handley

15th May Grahams Bush to Bethunes Gully. Russell Knowles

The small but select group included Russell himself, Lee-Ann, Malgosia, Mark, Roger and Jane. It was good to see two new people, Lee-Ann and Malgosia, both keen to get back into tramping.

We set off in reasonable weather but with some cloud obscuring the mountain tops. The climb up through Graeme's bush was a pleasure as the bush there is stuffed with bird life and we were regaled with a stunning variety of songs and calls.

Jane returned from here the way she came, having helped the trip greatly by driving via Bethune's Gully where we left a car.

The cloud level was wavering around the top of the organ pipes and a bit of a breeze blew up our jackets so we had morning tea a little further up the track.

Climbing over the rocky Butter's Peak the cloud began to break up, giving us some tantalizing snatches of the view down to the peninsular on one side, and Blueskin bay on the other.

Roger met us at the top of Mt Cargill by which time there were breaks in the cloud and patches of blue and more views. Lunch was taken basking in the sun by a large rock that sheltered us from the breeze.

After that a lovely stroll back to the waiting car at Bethune's Gully. GTWHBA (Good Time Was Had By All)."

cheers, Mark

23rd May Silverstream to Silver Peak (nearly) Mark Stephenson

Venturers: Myself, Deb Nicholls, Sue Williams and Rodger Clarkson.

Over the hill from Woodhaugh via 3-mile-Hill Road to Silverstream carpark.

Fortunately no frost or ice this time. A pleasant paddle across the stream followed by a stiff climb up Powder Ridge.

"How long is the steep bit," someone said.

"Yeah, about that..."

Great weather and fine views once we attained the ridge top. Morning tea was spent sunbathing and re-grouping muscle fibers before the saunter along Long Ridge and the final switchback in shadow and therefore cold (still some frost here).

By that time lunch was well due. We ate it.

Going on to 'the summit' was discussed but we decided in the end to make do with Pulpit Rock. Saw a short aerial dog-fight between the Karearea who lives up there and a wandering Aussie Harrier. One-nil to the Karearea on this occasion.

The awesome weather continued as we made our way back down the ridge but the light was gloaming by our return. Made the carpark by 5:30, only an hour later than expected.

AGTWHBA.
Mark



Long Ridge. Photo Credit: Rodger Clarkson

What's on the radar for our Thursday Club nights and Saturday/Sunday trips and events

Upcoming Day Trips/Weekends & Thursday Meetings

Thursday Night Meetings

Club Social meetings at the Club rooms 3 Young Street, South Dunedin

Members, non-members, visitors , all are welcome to these social events. Doors open at 7:30 for an 8 pm start.

All ideas are welcome for future up-coming evenings.

Upcoming Trip and Meeting Quarterly Planner

June - Aug 2021

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	1 June	2	3 Dr Chris Sole: Footwear: Paradigms, Patterns of Degradation and Design, Performance and Self-assessment	4	5	6 Buskin / Highcliff / Boulder Beach / Paradise Track - Tony Timperley 03 473 7257 Queens Birthday Long Weekend
7	8	9	10 BYO Photo Night	11	12	13 Orokonui Circuit Saskia Bronstring 027 266 7703
14	15	16	17 Andrew Gorman: Making tracks in Antarctica – seeing beneath the ice of the Ross Ice Shelf.	18	19 Nicols Creek Glowworms 7pm - Sue Williams 021713606	20
21	22	23	24 A BEACH WALK BY MOONLIGHT departs clubrooms 7.45pm	25	26	27 Victory Beach - Alan Thomson 03 455 7878
28	29	30	1 Melanie Bussey - The Mechanics of Movement, and particularly returning to sport after injury	2	3	4 Walk (tramp) from the Clubrooms - Laurence Prattley 027 222 9772 2-3 Luxmore Hut - Sharen Rutherford 027 229 1961
5	6	7	8 Lawrence and Raewyn Prattley: The Two Thumb Walk	9	10	11 Otago Central Rail Trail or Clutha Gold (cycle trip) - Rodger Clarkson 03 473 6095
12	13	14	15 TBC	16	17	18 Clutha River Mouth - Wayne Hodgkinson 03 473 050 17 - 18 Port Craig (South Coast) - Rose Colhoun 021 151 3791
19	20	21	22 OTMC Quiz night run by Tracey & Richard Pettinger	23	24	25 Otago Peninsula Wildlife Photography - Sue Williams 021 712 606
26	27	28	29 BYO	30	31	1 August Swampy Summit - Tracy Pettinger 027 348 7585 31-1 Aoraki Mt Cook - Unwin Lodge - Rodger Clarkson 03 473 6053
27 July - 8 Aug Stewart Island - North West Circuit Laurence Prattley						
2	3	4	5 Cath Smith: All about Mushrooms	6	7	8 Rosella Ridge - Silver Peaks - Tomas Sobek 021 024 79822
9	10	11	12 Philip Somerville – A Triple treat of tramps	13	14	15 Stone Hill / Purehurehu Pointt - Gordon Tocher 021 677 818
16	17	18	19 The Halo Project	20	21	22 Victory Beach - Alan Thomson 03 455 7878
23	24	25	26 OTMC AGM NIGHT	27	28-29 Lake Ohau - Huxley Forks (Family Trip) - Brad Wilson 021 334 562	

As a reminder you must pre-register on the Weekend Trip List at the club rooms (or contact the leader direct) before the closing date (normally two weeks before the trip start). Members must pay before departure, non-members upon registering (non-members pay \$13 more than the members fee shown below. Vehicle providers may be exempt from the fee (check with the leader). Trip organisational details will follow by email. You are responsible for your gear and medical / first-aid needs (also see Gear Hire). (E)asy, (M)edium, (F)it required.

Note from the editor

Hi everyone, as the Bulletin Editor I am settling in nicely and appreciating all the lovely feedback and critical analysis. Got something on your mind for the Bulletin? Feel free to drop me a line and as always - please email your contributions for the next issue to caitlinr007@gmail.com by approximately 9th August 2021. Though I appreciate earlier delivery, so that I can start piecing it together without rushing (Also the sooner you write the report the more you remember - not looking at anyone in particular.....) If you include a photo or two, please note appropriate captions (names of people pictured, names of land features, etc.)

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THAT CONTRIBUTE!

Our Club - the Highlights

Celebrating everything and everyone OTMC. Send your favourite hiking photos to the editor. I may even choose it as the front cover!

Silver Peaks skyline with Pulpit Rock
Photo Credit: Tomas Sobek

