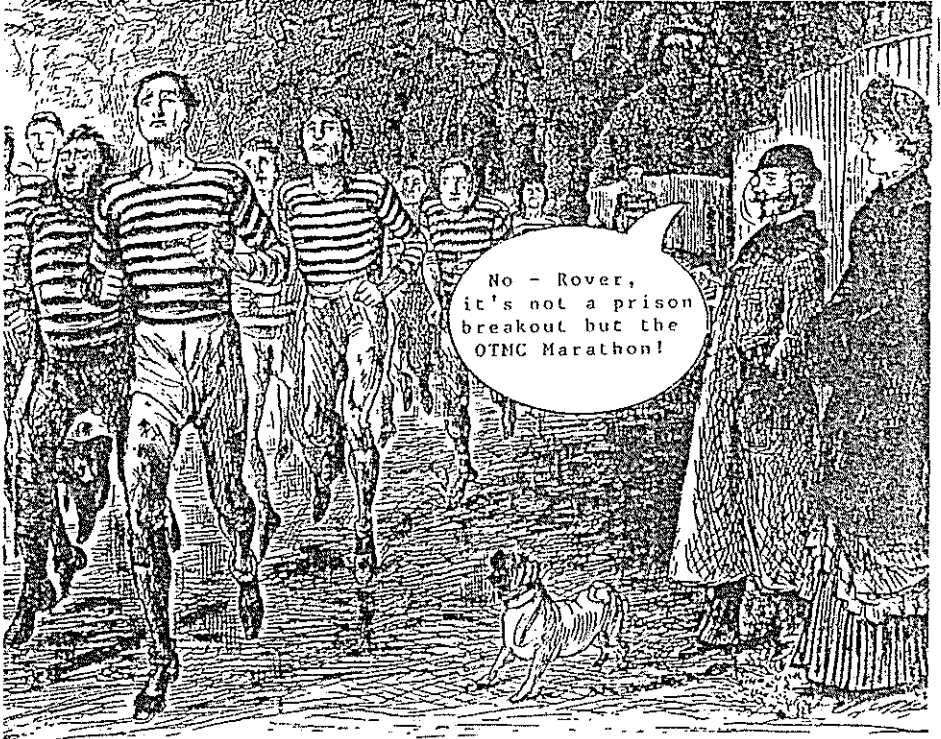


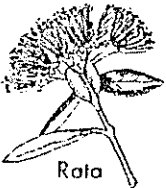
BULLETIN

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

March 1988



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SAR	Stu Mathieson	34-359



Rata



Matai

THE EDITOR SPEAKS

I will begin this month by making my final contribution to the Married Subs debate. Due to the overwhelming lack of support that I received, I will abandon my idea of axing the Married Subs as I would expect to be massively outvoted. Thanks to all that have corresponded with me on this issue, at least it provoked some lively discussion.



So what's on my mind this month? Ah! my social life (or lack of it). No, more generally, the social activities of the Club, I feel we need more! Tramping is a physical activity and a chance to get closer to the wild, unkempt, raggedy, sparkling world that is the New Zealand outdoors. But it is also a social activity for most of us. Sure, I've tramped alone and there's something special and challenging about the solitude and freedom of being alone. But most of us do tramp in groups and it's not just for safety reasons but because it's fun. So we all have a great time on weekends but what about the rest of the time? What about our other interests? Let's have Club Nights when we go ten-pin bowling, or to the theatre. Let's have a few more Club functions in addition to the Christmas one. And what about a combined do with the other tramping clubs around? There are so many things we could do to liven up some of the Club nights. Following the Quiz held last month, some people said how much they enjoyed it and that, particularly for new people, it gave them a chance to participate. So why not a games evening? bring your cards, chess, trivial pursuits, tiddlywinks. Ok it's not tramping-oriented but I'm a bit tired of all the BYO slide nights. And what about an OTMC Pantomime - I'd be in for one as long as I rescued the Fairy Princess lost in the bush and was trapped with her for several days while she recovered from hypothermia and we had to share the same sleeping bag (for medicinal purposes only) and

Following the Tirohanga weekend, there was a lot of comments about peoples' lack of confidence in their compass work. We have to use them so rarely normally, that it's so easy to get rusty and get the variation mixed up and things. So, let's have a weekend every, say six months, when we could walk (or run) an orienteering course like the one at Tirohanga. It's important that members of the Club do feel comfortable with the use of a map and compass especially when we are introducing new people to the bush.

I am enjoying my time as Editor and I would like some feedback on what you think of the Bulletin. Do I waffle too much? Do you want more (or fewer) trip reports? Please drop suggestions, complaints in the Bulletin pocket in the Club rooms to let me know (these comments don't have to be for publication, I just want your ideas and comments. Thanks).



Mmmarathon

Date - 13 February 1988
Time - 4:30 am

Sound familiar folks? yes, you guessed it, the OTMC marathon for 1988 - a gruelling 60kilometre walk or run with a mere 10000ft rise and fall. Not bad on a fine day - but on a wet one!

Well, despite the weather forecast, six of us set off from Booth Road (Pineapple track end) in heavy fog which seemed to clear as we approached Flagstaff. But it was only a short reprieve because a thunder and lightning storm struck around 5:00 am with torrential rain. Needless to say, we all got drenched but we still pressed on, totally oblivious to the weather (the lightning actually showed up the track and surrounding area quite well). Soon enough, the rain began to ease and by the time we were approaching Powder Hill, it had virtually stopped but, although it was light, visibility would only have been about 30 metres. This was the testing part with the map and compass being required (I can only relate this part of the journey secondhand as I travelled over the "alternative route"!!). From Powder Hill, the route follows a farm road to the west of Powder Hill running north. You then pass the old Pyramid Hut site and head for Poplar Hut (one poplar still standing although a road runs right past now). You then follow a farm track and head up Mt John, from there descending down the zigzag track to Mt John Hut. The route then takes you up Christmas Creek and on to the Homestead Hut. Continuing, it is up to ABC caves and round to the Gap. Now I decided that this route was a bit boring and seeing that I had never been down on the Salisbury region, I decided to go there. I dropped off Powder Hill and promptly, but inadvertently, went south, visiting Ferny Hill (a hill with a long dead-end road). Following the railway line, I headed to Salisbury and over Boulder Hill. After traversing the hill, I walked along Long Ridge to Pulpit Rock.



Antony P. on
"alternative"
route

Now the others took the "conventional" route and after a couple of navigational problems (eh, Bill) ended up at the Gap where to greet them were Peter and Ross. From here, they travelled along Rocky Ridge and the grind through Pulpit Rock, Green Hut, Swampy and back to Booth Road. We all arrived back in varying degrees of fitness between 4:30pm and 8:30pm. Not bad when you consider the poor visibility and all the map and compass work.

It was a good thing that the poor weather continued for another day because I doubt that any of us could have made it to the Club Picnic let alone rock climb. My thanks (& congratulations) to Arthur Blondell, Ian Sime, Simon Thomas, Bill Provan and Michelle Williams for doing the Marathon; to Peter Mason and Ross Cocker for providing moral support at the Gap; to Ken and Debbie Williams for stationing themselves at Green Hut; to Jeanne Mason and Shirley Stuart for being there at the end and Mike Floate for his concern when some weren't back at 7pm.

So the next one is in November - see you there!!!!

THE WHAREPAPA DECLARATION

Petition to Parliament on Mining

WHAREPAPA DECLARATION - Your support can help preserve our natural heritage for our tramping children and gran-children.

National Parks should, by their very definition, be sacrosanct. Yet they are not. At present the law allows for mining in our National Parks, reserves, conservation parks and other specially protected areas.

The Wharepapa Declaration aims to be New Zealand's largest ever petition to Parliament to pressure for a change in the law so that these invaluable areas will be exempt entirely from mining.

So, please by firstly signing this most worthwhile of petitions and then getting a few others to also sign. Remember some of our best tramping areas are also of prime interest to the mining companies - Skippers and Mt Aurum, the Red Hills, Takatimus, Maruia Valley, North-West Nelson including Cobb Valley.

Some of you will find a petition form enclosed. Please fill it with signatures and return it to me at 1 Montague Street, or to one of the Club Committee, by the END OF MARCH.

Thanks, Mark Hanger
Outdoor Recreation Group Convenor.

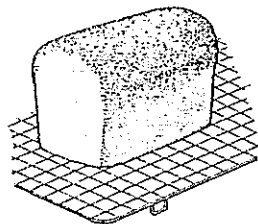
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ABEL TASMAN COASTAL TRACK - Marahau end
New Year's Eve: David & Anne-Marie Barnes

Plans of a 10:00am start disappeared when we discovered that we'd arrived just after the bus. Tramping in a queue is the pits so we detoured to the beach for half-an-hour. Three hours later we were away. The track starts off across a bit of a causeway across an estuary. At the end of this is the intentions book - out of reach of vandals. The track wanders through the bush a couple of hundred feet above sea level with views out across the sea to nearby islands and down onto golden beaches. After bypassing Stillwell Bay (too many people) we arrived at Appletree Bay. Time for a swim - Abel Tasman's about the only place you'll get me (D or A-M?) in the water on a voluntary basis. Then with the wind coming up and time running out we headed back the way we'd come. At Tinline Bay, we saw a dinghy ferry trampers to the Kaiteriteri launch. A short while later we were out at the road and heading for Riwaka ahead of the rain.

4 # # # # #

After some commotion about who was going to go in which van, we finally left at about 6-15pm on the Mavora Lakes trip which was later to become known (by our group at any rate) as "Remembrance", in remembrance of those things forgotten. For some reason, whilst in the van, the topic turned to food whereupon we discovered we had 5 (5!) loaves of bread! How on earth were we going to eat 5 loaves of bread in one weekend? Anyhow, we arrived at the lakes at about 10-30 and bivvied out for the night.

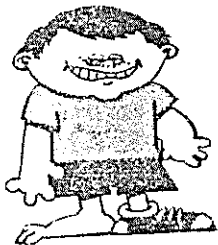


Up early on Saturday morning (apart from the 3 young ones) and then we were dropped off by the van further down the road after deciding to leave 3 loaves behind. After travelling for 1½ to 2 hours, we decided that we had missed the turnoff to the track leading up a prominent ridge to the bushline. After backtracking for 15-20 mins., Barry and I found what looked like the track and, after Barry had examined it from all angles, we decided that it was the track and that there was no shame in having missed it because of the lack of markers (which we later discovered was intentional). We left a few arrows for the other parties and I led the way. After a short while we met Kathy's, Keith's and some other parties coming towards us. What the hell was going on? They informed us that they were coming from where the van had dropped them off! No wonder we'd found the track unmarked, we were going the wrong way! Eventually, Antony found what seemed to be the right track and after a steep grunt and a little bushbashing we reached the top in perfect summer weather.

A stop for a well-deserved lunch and then the cry "Who's got the other loaf of bread?". It then transpired that we only started out with 4 loaves of bread, 3 were left in the van (Barry's bright idea) and so we only had one left for the weekend! Bill was muttering "Where did I get the idea that I'd bought 5 loaves?".

After lunch, we climbed Cerberus and got some magnificent views of the surrounding area including Mt Aspiring on the horizon. We marched onwards, uphill for a while and then downhill all the way to our campsite. This via a 500ft scree slope leaving clouds of dust behind us and a final boulder-hop before pitching our tent after a long 10 hour day.

Up early again the next morning and off down river where we met Dave Peacock's party just breaking camp. We decided to have a brew when Barry decided to put a huge rock in Dave's pack. We all bust ourselves whilst he packed his pack apparently oblivious to the presence of the rock. We then parted company with Dave and all his little peacocks (They were all peahens - Ed). Debbie and I led, practising our map-reading, for the rest of the day.



Barry W.
trying to be funny

We met up with Dave's party again later in the day and I asked him "How are the rock samples?". He did not seem to understand and I thought this guy must be thick if he hasn't found the rock but no it was a FRAP! 3 full billies of water and Lisa "Thunderstorm" Scott and we were soaked. But

Antony dropped his pack, grabbed Dave and into the river with him. (No hard feelings, eh Dave?).

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HIRE EQUIPMENT — PARAPENTES

O. T. M. C. MEMBERSHIP

All Bushcraft '88 participants are invited to join the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club.

As a full club member you receive the monthly bulletin, the annual publication "Outdoors", discount in selected tramping shops and membership in the Federated Mountain Clubs. Members have priority on trips, you don't have to pay non-member surcharges on gear hire and weekend trips (\$6.60 incl GST) and you have the chance to have your say in the running of the club.

Subscriptions rates for the current year ending 30/6/88 are:

Single full membership:	\$34.10(incl GST)
Married full membership:	\$46.20(incl GST)
Junior full membership (at secondary school):	\$22.00(incl GST)
Postal membership (no voting rights):	\$22.00(incl GST)

If you are a Bushcraft '88 participant this subscription will give you membership for 16 months to 30/6/89.

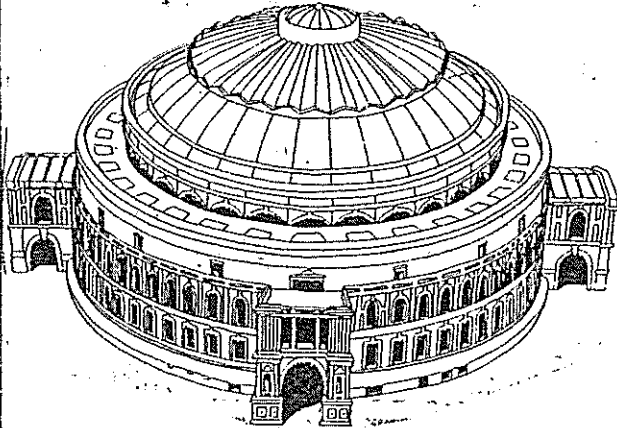
An entry fee of \$5.50(incl GST) is payable when you join (people who are already members of an FMC affiliated club do not have to pay this).

Application forms for O.T.M.C. membership are available from Mary Hewinson (Membership Secretary) or Jane Bruce (Treasurer). The Tirohanga and Silverpeaks weekends are the two "qualifying trips" for Bushcraft '88 participants. Get two club members who have been tramping with you to propose and second you, and hand the form and subscription to Mary. Applications are considered at the next committee meeting.

Remember that you don't have to be a club member to go on club Sunday or weekend trips, or to come to the Thursday night meetings. We'll be happy to have you come along. Also remember the other tramping and walking groups in town always welcome new people- there is something that will suit everyone.

SEE YOU OUT TRAMPING!

Club Rooms



We have officially been asked to leave the present Clubrooms by March 31st. The building is the property of the Education Board and they have plans linked to Otago Girls High School.

We have several options open to us at the moment in partnership with the

Alpine Club. In the immediate future, we are looking at low-cost lease property, probably in the area south of the Exchange. However, the consideration that the Club now has \$40,000 and will be taxed on interest earned on this money (due to pending Govt. legislation) makes investing this money in property very attractive as a long-term objective. Any input re leasehold or properties would be appreciated.

N.B. The last Thursday (March 24th) will be the Demolition Party! and shortly afterwards there will be a moving workparty - please remember both.

A big thank-you to the Polytech and, especially, Peter Haines for being such good landlords!

Clubrooms Subcommittee (10/3/88)

(The Editor apologises for the credibility gap engendered by last month's report in "The Bulletin" saying that we had plenty of time before we had to move. Things change fast in the high-rise world of property and that item was out-of-date before it hit the newstands. It's a hard life being Editor!).

Club -shirts

Due to popular demand, they're back! This time we're using "Kiwi T" brand (trendy white baggy cotton T-shirts) and again featuring the Club's logo on the front.

Sizes : S M L and XL \$12-50
Kids' sizes : 4 - 14 (Stallion Brand) \$9-00
(Mail Orders add \$1-00 per shirt for P&P).

Don't miss out! Get your order to David Barnes by April 10th. No money - no order!!



The Priory in New Zealand of the Most
Venerable Order of the Hospital
of St John of Jerusalem



The St. John Ambulance Association

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen (Sovereign Head of the Order)

Prior: His Excellency the Governor-General

OUTDOOR FIRST AID COURSE St John / Mountain Safety Council

Date :- May 21st & 22nd
Venue :- Tirohanga Presbyterian Camp
Cost :- \$35 per person

To gain or renew your First Aid certificate. The course is a must for anyone using the outdoors or on the S.A.R. list.

For further details:-
ring Bevan Blackmore 36-125

ECONOMY

O. T. M. C. INVESTMENTS MARCH '88

General fund	\$12700
Hutbuilding fund	\$3200
Clubrooms fund	\$26200

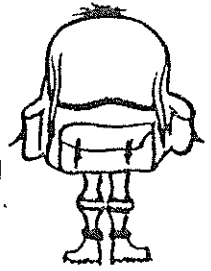
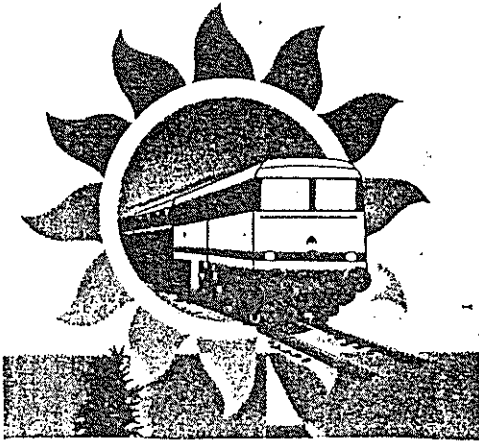
The general fund (which is the fund the committee uses for day to day running of the club) is held in the OTB cheque account and on call with DFC.

Allowing for the cost of outdoors we have about \$10000 readily available, which the clubrooms subcommittee regards as being sufficient for any immediate leasing expenses.

The clubrooms and hutbuilding funds (which are put aside for those purposes only, with any change in the use of the funds having to be approved by a general meeting of club members) are held in solicitor's mortgage account and term investments.

The committee has decided to keep these funds on a three month term for the time being.

There is an investment subcommittee whose job is to recommend ways to invest and use the club funds. If anyone has suggestions or ideas, contact Jane and come along to the next meeting.



Trip Programme

March 20th

SWAMPY - GREEN HUT Graham Hopkins 55-080
Here is a part of the Silverpeaks that is really close but rarely seen (because of the weather). Graham assures us that the day will be perfect and the pace pleasant (M).

March 27th

SILVERPEAKS Pam Hodgkinson 738-390
Ever thought about doing the Marathon? Well here is a good chance to check out some of the route, it helps (ask the Chief Guide!). So why not come along with Pam for an E-M walk.

April 1st-4th



EASTER TRIP - MATUKITUKI (ALL)

Bill Robertson 877-519

The Easter trip to the Matukituki offers a range of tramping and climbing choices. The more popular West Matukituki contains a number of passes worth a visit and is also the main approach to Mt. Aspiring. The East Matukituki is more suited to those wanting to get away from it all and also contains some great scenery. The trip will leave on Thursday night and mark on the Trip List if you want a 4 or 5 day trip (\$46 and \$53 respectively). Also, we may use private cars to reduce the cost so please also indicate if you are prepared to take a car.

BUSHCRAFT

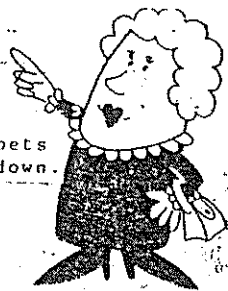
BUSHCRAFT

Barry Wybrow, the Committee, all the members and especially, the Bushcrafters would like to thank Trustbank Otago for their support of Bushcraft.



TRUST BANK

Social Calendar



THE
SOCIAL SEC.

- MARCH 24 - DEMOLITION PARTY - blow those trumpets and let those walls come tumbling down. BYO, cheese provided. Be there! it may be the last meeting we have in the Stuart Street rooms.
- MARCH 31 - NO MEETING due to Easter Trip.
- APRIL 7 - "Moan and Groan" evening - play Doctors and Nurses (& Doctors with Nurses). No - seriously, it's your chance to ask probing questions of Committee members and discuss issues concerning the Club.
- APRIL 14 - GAMES EVENING - bring your cards, chess, draughts Trivial Pursuits etc and let's have some fun.



FMC PUBLIC MEETING

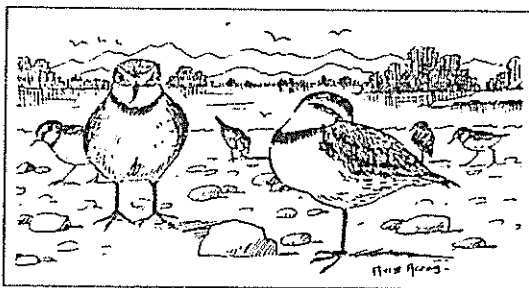
Sunday 27th March - 4:30 pm
Evison Lounge - Clubs & Societies Building
University of Otago

National Executive Officers Alan Evans and David Jenkinson will describe the work of FMC and introduce current issues for open discussion (including Pastoral Leases and Conservation Quangos).

Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand (Inc.)

From the

amazing Quiz night



Some wrybills hop on one leg because they forgot to untuck the other leg after they have been resting.

For all you Doubting Arthurs (and Marthas), here is the proof of the answer to the question "Why do wrybills often stand on one leg?". (Forest & Bird, November 1983). So there!!