

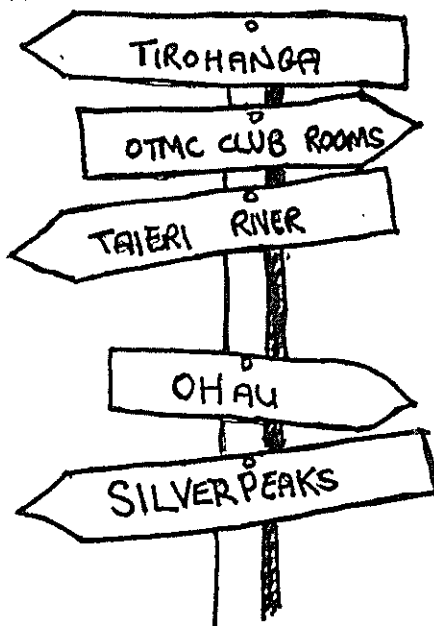
Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

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

APRIL 1990

BULLETIN NO. 487



BUSHCRAFT '90

PRESIDENT	Stuart Mathieson	534-359
VICE PRESIDENT	Rhonda Robinson	738-142
SECRETARY	Mark Planner	763-988
TREASURER	Teresa Wasilewska	741-315
CHIEF GUIDE	Antony Pettinger	737-924
EDITOR	Debbie Pettinger	737-924
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Ian Sime	536-185
SOCIAL SEC.	Elsbeth Gold	551-245
GEAR HIRE	Russell Godfrey	557-205

The Otago Tramping & Mountaineering Club
meets every Thursday night at 7-30 pm
at the clubrooms
cnr Russell & Arthur streets

TRIP LIST

APRIL 22 ROCK AND PILLARS (M) (8 am Start) Ken Mason 762-494

Not an area traditionally visited by the club as a day trip but then again Ken knows alot about a lot of different area's. This should be an interesting trip so please note the starting time and be at at the club rooms at 8-00 am.

APRIL 28-29 MT COOK (M-C) Rhonda Robinson 738-142



Mt Cook, New Zealand's highest mountain and the surrounding area is one of the most superb mountain areas around. From every vally, peaks from 7000 ft upwards dominate, with Mt Cook being the most majestic. Transport will go as far as Foliage Hill, just past the Hermitage. From here trips can go up the Hooker Valley, beside the Hooker glacier, or towards the Sealy Range via Mueller Hut. Possibly parties could go up the Tasman Glacier clinging, such as Ball Pass, and untold peaks to be conquered by our climbers, of course wherever you go, good views of Mt Cook widely abundant.

The trip, because of the area and time of the year is graded for Medium to climbing parties only.

Trip List closes on 19 April at the clubrooms Trip Fare \$35
Map NZMS 1 579 Mt Cook

APRIL 29 BERWICK FOREST (8 am start) Dave Levick 738-427

Berwick Forest is not far from Outram and is a great place to spend a Sunday exploring it all. Dave is full of enthusiasm for this one so please be at the club rooms by 8-00 am.

MAY 5-6 CATLINS (ALL) Dot Pagel 774-911



A good trip close to home and while the club hasn't been here for a while it is still a good place. Winter tramping is approaching and this would be a good chance to find out what it is like without getting toooo cold. Plenty of scope for all grades so sign the list early. Trip List closes 26 April at the clubrooms Trip Fare \$20

MAY 6 CATLINS DAY TRIP Elspeth Gold 551-245

Here is a new one - if you can't make the weekend trip then try going on the day trip to the same area. An excellent idea. Be at the club rooms at 9-00 am

OTMC CLUBROOMS



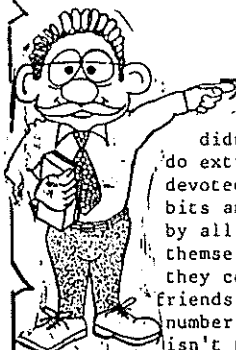
It is with pleasure that I advise all members, the decision of the Special General Meeting on 22 March 1990 regarding the prospect of buying new clubrooms.

On the condition that the Dunedin City Council grant us the parking consession, the meeting decided to purchase the rooms at 3 Young Street

The club has been saving and looking for long time and now it looks possible. If the club is successful in the parking the there will be a couple of working bees on the new rooms to make it habitable and ho

Should you be asked to help, then please do. There is plans to make one wall a map w a wall for notices, photo's, etc. For those that remember the Stuart Street rooms then you will know what is hoped. Congratulations OTMC you almost have a home.

EDITOR'S DIARY



Welcome to another month and hasn't the year flown by.

Already Bushcraft has come and gone for another year and didn't Ross Cocker, Antony Pettinger and all the other instructors do extremely well. As promised last month, this bulletin has been devoted entirely to Bushcraft 1990 and is filled with trip reports and bits and pieces from the course. You can tell how successful it was by all the trip reports. All the bushcrafters I spoke to enjoyed themselves and although most do not feel the club is the place for them they certainly will keep up tramping, even if it is only with family and friends. I personally feel this has made the course a great success. The number of people who join the club afterwards is great but it certainly isn't the main objective of the course. As long as people leave feeling they have achieved something and enjoyed it enough to continue when they have finished the course. Even if it is only with the family and up Mt Cargill. They will always have that knowledge with them and hopefully they will use it to encourage their friends to enjoy the outdoors with them, Safely!! After all is that not the main objective. Teach people how to enjoy tramping and the outdoors safely.

I feel it is a shame that Ross could not find anyone to train up for next years Bushcraft Director. I know it is a big job and takes up a tremendous amount of time but the appreciation and sense of achievement received at the end of the course is a wonderful reward. Wouldn't it be a shame if the same people co-ordinated it each year and after two or three years burned themselves out and left both helping on the course and the club. After all is that not what happens? Some food for thought and hopefully it will get some people thinking on whether they would maybe like to try helping with next years course.

It has also been noted that a few moans and groans have been heard from participants in Bushcraft on how they found the course. This is fair enough because how else are we supposed to improve without criticism. However I feel some of it is a bit unfair. People must remember that all instruction is voluntary and club members who help are not being paid. If we were professionals then a higher standard of instruction can be expected. The instructors have given up their own time and in no way expect to be paid. The rest of the year they are just plain trampers. Another factor is what did people really expect to get out of the course? Was it supposed to make people competent to go out and climb Mt Aspiring straight away or was it to give them the knowledge to apply as they see fit? Remember that confidence and experience can not be taught on a course like Bushcraft, these must slowly be learned from trips away to the hills.

A final plea, most people find out about Bushcraft through word-of-mouth and so if you hear if one of your friends is thinking about tramping or making off to the hills then tell them about Bushcraft. They may be interested and it would really help to make next years course a great success. Hope you all enjoyed yourselves and we see you a bit more at club nights on Thursday. All Are Welcome!!!

Debbie

.....Editor



Directors Report.....

A B-R-Q at my home last night, as a thankyou to instructors, heralded the formal closure of Bushcraft '90.

This years course was the 23rd successive one run by OIMC and was registered as an official 1990 project. Registrations closed at 55 and in the end 53 people completed the course which was in line with numbers over the past few years. Mostly all hailed from Dunedin however, special mention should be made of the 3 keen travellers who commuted regularly from Lawrence to attend. 51 Instructors/club members gave voluntary time in varying degrees. Silver Peaks was flattened by 70 pairs of boots carried there by 2 buses. Rivercrossing had almost all of the 56 trampers, instructors and their families repeatedly crossing the Taieri River just below Lee Stream in depths of water ranging from knees to waist. The optional weekend thrust 58 trampers in a bus and 2 vans into the Ohau Valleys. Pre-course preparation commenced early October 1989 and was fairly hectic right up to the Introductory Evening on 13 February. Total course turnover was \$7344. A break-even course fee was set at \$100, discounted to \$95 if paid early. \$450 was donated to rebate the course fee for the 9 Secondary School students by a generous \$50 each. 2100 sheets of photocopied paper were produced. I have roughly estimate between 1500/2000 voluntary hours of planning, preparation, practical assistance and commitment were given to the course this year. This equates to around 10 months of 40 hour weeks which is no small contribution and all instructors, no matter what their level of contribution, must accept mine and the Club's thanks for their assistance. If these hours could ever be charged out on a time and materials basis the course "value" could be around \$750 p. Bushcraft fee. (I fear though that we would have few takers at this level !!!)

Sponsors contributed either monies or materials to the course and every one in their way helped to keep our costs down. In todays relatively harsh economic climate their contributions are even more so appreciated and as a special matter we need to support our sponsors when purchasing goods and services as an acknowledgement of their generosity and their support for our course.

- Thankyou AMP Perpetual Trustees Charitable Trusts and Kaikorai Valley High School Continuing Education Programme for your major course sponsorship
- Thankyou Alexander McMillan Trust, Wilderness Shop, Sterling Sport-T.L. Begg and Otago Tramping & Mountaineering Club for sponsoring the Secondary School Students
- Thankyou Alp Sports for discounting pack bags and gear hire; Westpac Banking Corp South Dunedin Branch for plastic bags, pads & pens; Cadbury Schweppes Hudson Ltd for generous quantities of chocolate products and Dunedin Mountain Safety Committee for sponsoring our advertising and making the stall available at the A & P Show.

I enjoyed the challenge of co-ordinating Bushcraft '90 and thank all of the instructors involved who always answered "yes" when asked. Special thanks to those who organised the Introductory/Final Evenings, Tirohanga, Silver Peaks, Rivercrossing and Optional Ohau and, at the risk of naming names I must mention and express personal thanks to Antony Pettinger for his assistance, encouragement and for "just being there". Also extra special thanks to my wife Pam who rescued me frequently from the brink of insanity, who made me see what I often couldn't (eventually) and for just listening.

Ross Cocker
Course Director

WOODSMEN'S ANNUAL EXAMINATION.

SECTION 9: ETHICS.

QUESTION 1.

YOU ARE LOST IN THE FOREST AT NIGHT. TEMPERATURES ARE BELOW FREEZING AND YOU HAVE ONLY LIGHT CLOTHING. BUT YOU DO HAVE MATCHES AND COULD LIGHT A FIRE TO KEEP WARM. HOWEVER BY DOING SO YOU WOULD RISK BURNING DOWN THE WHOLE FOREST.

WOULD YOU: (a) LIGHT A FIRE AND SAVE YOURSELF BUT RISK DESTROYING THE ENTIRE FOREST?

OR (b) NOT LIGHT A FIRE AND RISK FREEZING TO DEATH?

OR (c) OTHER? (IF SO STATE WHAT) (5 MARKS)



(c) State
Fire Insurance.



IMPORTANT !!!

Heres an idea for a social club weekend, but it will involve alot of organisation on my part so I'd like to gauge interest before setting the wheels in motion.

If theres no feedback I won't bother organizing it.

Okay heres the plan-----

THE GREAT MANIOTOTO TAVERN TREK WITH A SUNDAY SKATING TRIP ATTACHED.

Approximate cost \$50. Calculated on bus fare, skate hire, tea, plus spending a couple of dollars in each pub.

Leave Dunedin 1pm Saturday heading for Naseby.

Theres a pub at Macreas Flat

2 in Naseby

onto Wedderburn

St Bathans

Becks

Omakau

Chatto Creek

Ophir pub for a smorgesboard tea

Poolburn

finish at Oturihua.

Organize to camp at the Oturihua skating dam on Saturday night.

Skate on Sunday with skates organised from the bus company.

Supply own lunch Sunday, perhaps a barbeque. Leave 3pm arriving home about 6pm Sunday.

Transport, hire of skates and tea would be prepaid probably about \$30/head.

For maximum enjoyment we'd need a bus full so the idea would be to open the way for heaps of freinds to come too.

Timing Mid Winter worked around the current trip list.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE YOU KEEN TO SEE IT PROCEED IN THIS FORM OR PERHAPS MINUS THE SKATING TRIP SO THAT WE'RE NOT GOVERNED BY ICE CONDITIONS ??????????????????

IF THERE IS NO FEEDBACK THERES NO TRIP. (although theres been so much interest among my friends I might organize it for them)

IF YOUR KEEN PLEASE LET ME KNOW ELOPETH GOLD 551245

000 ———— 1 ———— 000

This is your Bulletin and to make it interesting I need lots of Trip Reports, Letters to the Editor, Recipes, Crosswords or plain gossip. If you have anything to contribute please hand it to either Debbie or Antony Pettinger at Thursday Club nights or post to 'The Editor' OTMC P O Box 1120 Dunedin. The aim of the Bulletin is to keep members informed on what is or has happened in the club.

PLACE: Scout and Guide Hall opposite Beach Hotel, Victoria Road out at St Kilda.

TIME: 8 pm, meet any time from 7 pm in the public bar of the Beach Hotel.

BAND: Caught in the Act

THEME: It's 1970 again!!

What were you wearing?

Dress accordingly and all in costume please

PRICE: \$10 single, \$18 double, \$5 children (doesn't mean if you wear nappies it's half price)

SUPPER: Bring a plate plus your own refreshments. Alcohol permitted.

TICKETS: from Elspeth

THERE'S GOOD MUSIC, GOOD COMPANY, GREAT THEME, SO A HUGE TURNOUT PLEASE. MAKE THIS THE SOCIAL TO REMEMBER. FRIENDS AND FAMILY MOST WELCOME.

SO ROLL ON UP AND GET YOUR TICKETS.

Anyone still keen after the Social are welcome at my place 68 Grove street (Just around the corner) for coffee.

CheersElspeth

SEARCH & RESCUE

The club has for many years made a major commitment to Search & Rescue. As part of this commitment, our SAR Callout List is about to get a major updating.

I intend to call all the existing people and confirm their ongoing availability and to call most of the club's active members who are not on the list to discuss their possible inclusion. Save me a few calls and let me know if you are interested.

The guidelines for inclusion are:-

COMMITMENT - Willingness to be available at short notice.

- Preferably able to search during work time

- Prepared to maintain/enhance skills through training and participation in excursions.

FITNESS - A minimum would be the club's "M" grade

SELF RELIANCE - Sufficient bush skills to be an effective searcher without other members of the team having to look out for your well being.

NAVIGATION SKILLS - Use of map and compass in a search situation usually requires more precision than on a tramping trip.

FIRST AID - A working knowledge - preferably a current first aid certificate.

TEAM WORK - Willing and able to work as part of a team.

PATIENCE - You do a lot of standing around.

If you think you fit most of these guidelines you belong on our list!!

The club runs training in search techniques from time to time. We intend to find out what areas training is needed in and organise something accordingly.

Please contact me David Barnes

03 544 402



SILVERPEAKS BUSHCRAFT REPORT

At first sight of our wiry, energetic, fit looking leader, Les Smith, we three female, no- so- fit Bushcrafters had pangs of apprehension. These were relayed however as Anthea, Karen, Les and myself boarded the bus and talked of the pace of the slowest member of the group.

On disembarking, we once again had shades of doubt, all the other groups chose the well-trodden track and our confident leader turned and made his way up the road towards dense bush. We swallowed hard and obediently followed. We didn't for one minute doubt that what followed was closely planned by Les to give us bushcrafters a taste of what it might be like to be lost or as our leader put it "geographically embarrassed". He was very convincing as he assured us that the 90° incline we were descending (from tree to tree, Tarzan style) was the beginning of a mild stroll up to Possum Hut. He was equally convincing as we bush-bashed through areas designed for pigs, dogs and idiots and of we didn't know better we would have sworn that he had taken us up the wrong valley. Les did top off his performance off by doing some solo explorations up some gullies just to demonstrate that even 'pros' can make mistakes.

By this time we were beginning to get a bit worried so the decision to retrace our Tarzan steps and climb back up to the road was made. After this amazing (all carefully planned and beautifully executed by Les, I hasten to add) the remaining trip into Green Hut site was very tame.

A long and restful night of hearing of other parties food preparations then into bed for a rather windy and wet (only outside the tent) night was enjoyed by all. Sunday was a beautiful day and this included a slow stroll to Pulpit Rock for some map reading and then onto Painted Forest to see if it really was painted there. Back to Green Hut Site for a well earned lunch then a refined walk out to the road again.

Sorry we never got to Possum Hut but thanks Les for an unforgettable if not enjoyable weekend!

Wendy Knox for Les Smith (our faithful leader) Karen Boyle and Anthea O'Brien.

SILVERPEAKS WEEKEND - BUSHCRAFT

One cauliflower, sixteen apples, a double pack of chocolate chip biscuits, apricot jam - part of a "shopping list" for a foursome in the Silverpeaks, leader - Richard Pettinger with omnivorous Bushcrafters - Anton Fitchett, David Allnatt, and Stephen Packer.

Expectations of Teresa- style gourmet cooking evaporated with the thought of a kilo of cheese and a 'cauli' but the reality of a brimful steaming billy full of almost everything ensured no empty corners on that Saturday night after a day of high energy expenditure. Down to the South branch Waikouaiti and then, half toothless, though he bush bashed uphill on a magnetic bearing to the surprise of finding the track exactly where map and compass had indicated. A water stop at Yellow hut and lunch at the Gap. After encompassing the landmarks, then ABC cave it was to tent city at Jubilee, and of course our fill of macaroni, cheese, cauliflower, etc,etc. Glow worms, ghost stories and tales of the Hermit from Richard put us to sleep.

Up the Devils Staircase to Silverpeaks Summit, Rocky Ridge, Pulpit Rock, Green Hut and Hightop. A great introduction to Dunedins nearest recreational tramping area, with Richard's on the spot account of how three teenagers died of exposure where we sat in the sun emphasised for us, the importance and value of "Bushcraft" ——— Thanks OTMC!!

Report by Stephen Packer for Richard Pettinger, Anton Fitchett, David Allnatt

SILVERPINE WEEKEND

We started off walking up to and along Powder Ridge. We were in the bush all morning which was nice and cool because Saturday was a real scorcher. During the day we met up with Pam Cocker and Doug Forrester's party. I was the first to join them at Pulpit Rock and was just in time to receive the last piece of pineapple that everyone was just too full to eat. The pineapple smell, unfortunately attracted a bee that stung Irene while we were relaxing, luckily Doctor Doug had some magic cream in his pack that took down the swelling.

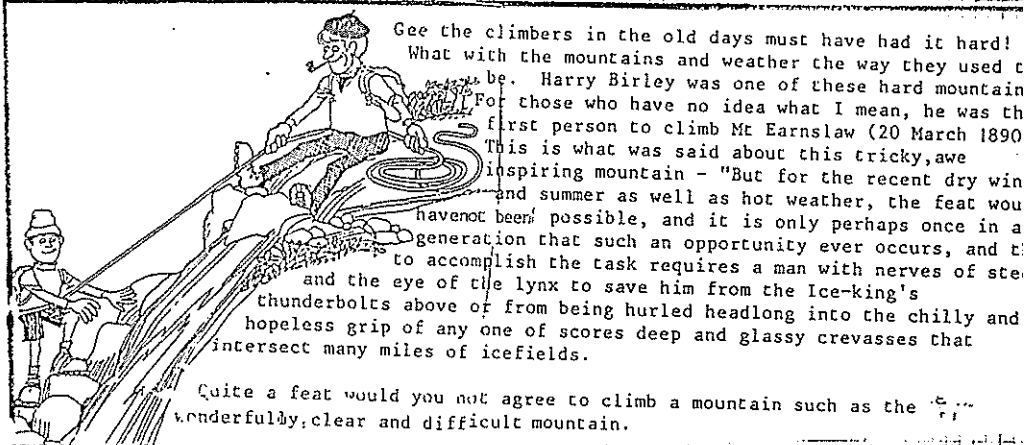
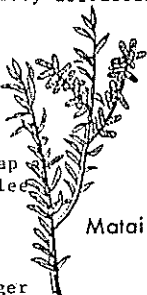
Saturday night was spent near Jubilee Hut as did a number of other people. Stu and Sharon produced lots of wonderful goodies for tea and I must say Stu makes some excellent Taranaki biscuits, perfect for breaking your dentures on. They go well with honey and peanut butter though. Sunday was another lovely day and we visited the Gap and Yellow Hut on our way out to the bus. Joanne didn't like Jubilee Hut much but thought Yellow Hut was nice and cute! Very Strange!!

A great weekend and thanks to all the party.

Stu Mathieson and Sharon St Clair-Newman (Leaders)

Melissa Spence, Joanne Vaughan and Kaye French ...by Tracy Pettinger

Matai



IMPORTANT NOTICES FROM COMMITTEE

FOR SALE 1 Venturer pack in good condition. \$95 one
ph 676-731, I would really love to hear from you

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR WONDERFUL TREASURER!!

A reminder to all people who go on club trips, it is essential that you pay BEFORE the trip leaves. There is a number of outstanding trip fares and if you think you may be on Teresa's black list then pay up or you may see your name in print on the pages of this Bulletin.

It has also been brought to the attention of the committee that a number of easy members on trips are being put into medium parties because of lack leaders. We apologise if you have been one of these victims. A plea also to leaders, please lead the grade that your party is and if you are a leader who doesn't mind leading an easy party every now and then, please contact the Chief Guide. Once again, the enjoyment of all on the trip is what should ideally happen.

If you don't mind driving the vans then please contact the Chief Guide as there is a limited number of drivers available and they are always being called on. If you are over 25 and hold a current drivers licence and would like to lighten the load of some of the current drivers then do not hesitate in seeing Antony Pettinger.

Highlights of our trip:

Day 1 - rain, but over our partners, no view.

Day 2-6 - see Day 1.

Day 7 - torrential rain, flooding, swimming with packs on.

Actually it was a strangely enjoyable trip, despite the weather - challenging you might say.

We took tents intending to camp out on the tops but were pleased to make use of the huts each night due to the weather, even when they were crowded (12 bunks, 15 people on the last night) - the track is very popular these days, & there are a lot of innocents from abroad roaming around, having done the Hollyford & Routeburn & looking for a similar experience (little did they know). The 5 of us hired the aptly named "Namu" (\$250) from Val Makay, Haroko Boat Services, Tuatapere & paid an extra \$100 for him to transfer us from Lake Manapouri to Lake Haroko, & from there across the lake to the Haroko Burn hut where we spent our 1st night. The huts are excellent & are only 5 hours on average apart, which we felt guilty about at 1st, but considering the conditions, was far enough. The track was clearly marked (just follow the muddy footprints from the day before!), & relatively easy, but the mud slowed us down; you never knew how far your foot would sink with each step & we were frequently in over our knees. A style similar to cross country skiing was employed in many areas.

The area around Lake Roe was beautiful with many lakes & tarns, & deserved a full days exploring but the rain fell so we carried on over the the Pleasant Range (where we should have had a magnificent view of the mountains & sounds but didn't!).

We did a day trip from Loch Maree to Supper Cove on New Years Day (5 hours each way, wonderful place - our only sunny spell!), having gone to bed early the night before in preparation for our 12 hour day.

Crossing Centre pass involved a steep 3 hour climb from the Kintail hut, using permanently placed ropes on some rock faces & tree roots for the rest till bushline, then a bleak, disappointingly viewless crossing into the Spey valley. It rained all night when we were in the upper Spey hut; we were sharing it with 7 Christchurch people, 2 Swiss & a German, & all set off separately next morning, but soon collected together as we realised what the conditions were like. The river valley is steep sided & narrow so the river was raging & the side streams were waterfalls with boulders grinding. The river was rising as you watched it & soon water was pouring from it into the valley floor, covering the spagnum moss & ferns with 6" of water in parts. Getting over the many waterfalls with Ken & John's help was one story but walking into the water up to your chest & having to swim parts was another! Keeping 14 people together during the bush bashing took a bit of doing too, as you could be

10' away & not see the next person. We went without a stop from 8.30am to 2.30pm when we came across the granddaddy of waterfalls - hearts sank as we climbed up the side: the people at the top hoping the road to Wilmot Pass was just above & the people at the bottom sussing out a crossing place. Meanwhile in the middle a Chch lad pulled a rock out on himself & it took 4 people to lift it off. Just then the road was found - & there was a bridge over the waterfall, phew! A fast 45 min walk brought us out at the power station where the visitors centre has a hot shower & tea & coffee! An hour later we were on the boat back to Manapouri & 12.30am that night I sunk gratefully into my own bed in Dunedin.

Rhonda Robinson for Ken Mason, Neville Mullholland, John Galloway & Mike Gillies.

HOTEL LOCH MAREE.

Entree: Neville Mullholland (sorry about the small serving).

Green vegetable: John Galloway (very wilted and unwashed).

Sweet, full bodied wine: Rhonda Robinson (vintage unkown).

Ingredients kindly supplied by Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club.

WARNING BEWARE ACHTUNG!

Enough additional muselli for a 10 day flood.

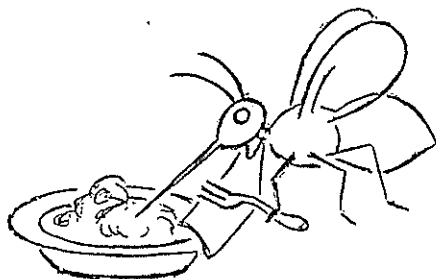
Walkwire repair kit. Corrigated parka.

A minimum of 2 webbed feet. Drain plug in sleeping bag.

Strong walking arms for the steep bits.

A sadistic sense of humour.

And may Hughie's blessing go with you.



TWO SHOWERS IN THE SPEY.

One wet and cold, causing flooding and discomfort; the other hot and steaming, giving comfort.

The Spey was in flood, the track submerged, we'd been making our own track through the bush, up to our armpits in water; and now, whoopee, we had found a hot shower.

I don't know if it was an OTMC vice presidential perk, a rare bit of masculine chivalry, or just that Rhonda was the first to again recognise one of civilisation's comforts, but she was first under the one hot shower in the West Arm reception building. One small problem though - the light bulb had died, so if the showerer was to see when all Fiordland's mud was off, the cubicle door had to be left ajar. While steam billowed from Rhonda's shower, others of us waited around performing very wet, very revealing, wet T-shirt acts; so it was rather persuasively explained to Rhonda that she should hurry up, and dry herself in the women's toilet, or she risked sharing the shower. Such was her fear of the latter, that she "streaked" to the sanctuary of the "Ladies", forgetting her dry undies hanging on the shower door. As the next to luxuriate under the shower I was quite unresponsive to her pleas of "My undies please". Eventually Mike was seen sneaking towards the ladies' room furtively clutching feminine undergarments.

Our sympathies to Ken who couldn't safely enjoy a shower. The zip on his shorts had developed a disconcerting malfunction; and I suspect he daren't risk showering lest he couldn't dress securely enough for our impending reunion with "normal" people.

Those mirrors at West Arm do very unkind things to your face after a week in the wilderness!

Luckily our ablutions were completed before the interface. West Arm is one of those few places where the social extremes collide. The fat walleted, comfort class, tourists got off the Deep Cove bus to find the reception building full of the Trampler Sub-species ("sub" meaning low). We were grovelling around amongst sodden pack contents looking for food remnants, by now almost indistinguishable from the rubbish we were carrying out. Meanwhile the "Comfort Class" looked on disdainfully, as if they would only recognise food and drink if on bone china and in crystal.

John G.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS The Wilderness Shop is offering a discount on a range of Macpac gear ie. packs, tents, sleeping bags, to members. See notice in clubrooms for further information. STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP P

OTMC VERUS UNI TRAMPING CLUB DEBATE

THURSDAY MAY 24th Topic--- That Winter Tramping Should Consist of Walking to the Nearest Pub with an Open Fire.

OTMC affirmative ie it should
UNI negative.

We need 3 volunteers for speakers and suggestions for an impartial judge.

Come on and volunteer, you have heaps of time to organize your speech and remember theres a cup at stake.
If your up in the etiquette of debating rules, format etc can you enlighten me please. thanks

CHEERS ELSPETH

OHAU

The Ohau weekend was full of interest and surprises.

Choosing a site to fly-camp by torchlight, in the rain, is an interesting experience, and it is worthy of note that water apparently doesn't soak into the sand at Ohau as it does elsewhere, and therefore it was a surprise to wake up at 2.30 a.m. and find that we were lying in about 20mm of water; especially so when our valiant leader, warmly encased in a "poufter pad" and bivvy bag of the latest design, had slid over onto my karrimat and pushed me off it!

Isn't it wonderful how even a wet(down) sleeping bag seems preferable to getting up and moving the fly at that unearthly hour?

Still, I found next morning that they were right at Tirohanga --wet wool and polyprop does keep you warm, even when topped by an oil-skin with a saturated cotton lining; so after breakfast we packed up and, convinced that we must be mad, headed for the Huxley, where the dirty weather seemed to be coming from.

Another surprise--the sun came out and by the time we got to Huxley forks the sky was blue and the sandflies were in full song. (?Can sandflies sing?).

Lunch at the forks and off over the swing-bridge on the North Huxley to loosen already stiffening limbs on the uphill track to Broderick, where we arrived a hot and tired three hours later, but not before our leader was threatened with an involuntary swim in the river if he dared to assure us, yet again, that the hut was "just over the next ridge".

However, there it WAS, and the selection of a lovely dry, level campsite under the open canopy of the beech forest brought back the good humour quickly, and as a stiff breeze dried out wet clothes and sleeping bags, by dinnertime we were a "box of birds" again.

Dinner, a communal effort, was a magnificent meal and my only regret was that I had forgotten to bring the essential ingredient for the Irish coffee!

Dinner over and the washing up done (guess who copped that little chore?), and a social chat and the light began to fade so that it was time for the sleeping bags. Dry ground, a level site sloping perhaps a little towards the feet, the fly well weighted against the rising wind and we were soon very snug.

The night was bright moonlight but very windy. I mean the sort of wind that shakes the trees-- not the sort that emanates from the onions in the beef stroganoff! Man, that bed was comfortable. What price the penthouse suite in the Park Royal?

Sunday morning the sky was still clear and it was a pleasure to head back to the forks for lunch (you were right, Lindsay, it WAS downhill all the way!); and then back to the flats, the swing-bridge, the Monument Hut and the vans.

Fish and chips at Oamaru was good but not a patch on dinner under the beech trees.

Home at the reasonable hour of about ten to a welcome hot shower, but I couldn't sleep because the bed was too soft!

Nice one OTMC; keep 'em coming!

Hugh Dickson,

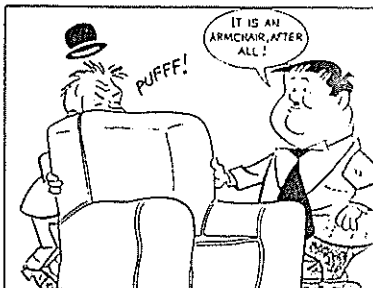
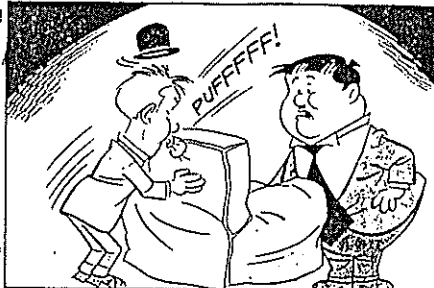
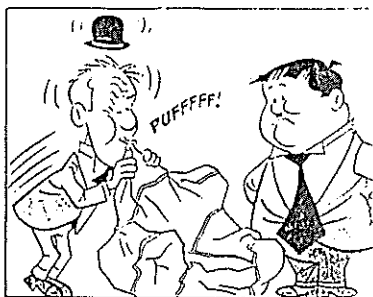
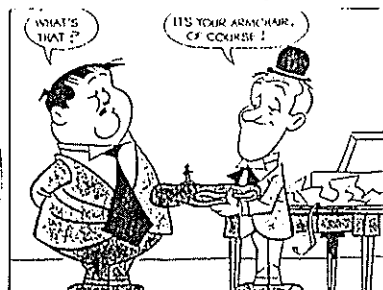
for Tracy Pettinger, Clare Cushins,
and, the great white chief, Lindsay Aitchison.

HEARD OF THE
POOFTA PAD??

NOW, THE

ULTIMATE!!

TRAMPING
WILL
NEVER BE
THE SAME

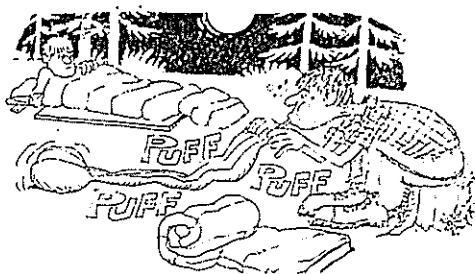
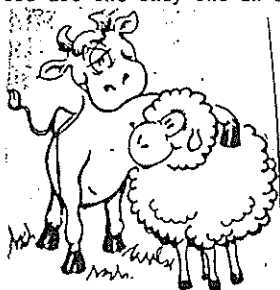


A NOVICES GUIDE TO TRAMPING

You know you are doing it WRONG when -

by Elpeth Gold

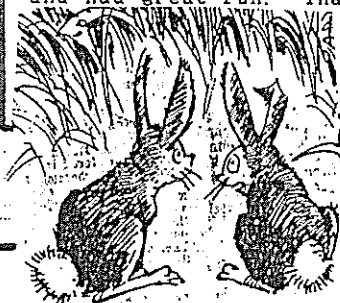
- Your pack weighs a ton due to the meat and three veges you packed for tea.
- Your pack weights two ton due to the six pack of Speights you packed for pre dinner drinkies.
- Your tramping mates laugh at you when you slip into you winchief nighty.
- You can't get the thistles and biddy bids out of your sox, due to not wearing gaiters.
- You overestimate your fitness and spend the whole weekend watching packs in the distance.
- You did the food and forgot the pudding - or worse you forgot the breakfast.
- Your tramping mates push you out of the tent due to particularly vicious smells emanating from your bottom.
- You are so buggered at the end of the day you can't partake in the post tea gossip session.
- To lighten the load you forgot your sleeping bag, hoping someone will share.
- You're the one who ends up with the rock in the middle of your back all night.
- You are always talking about the last epic not being a patch on this one.
- You choose a route which is all up and NO down.
- When learning snow craft, you inadvertantly put your crampons on upside down.
- You buy the fuel for the primus and end up with cleaning fluid.
- You are the only one in a hut full of people with your own pillow.



Silverpeaks with Neville and Ross

The plan looked simple. In over High Top and past Green Hut, up Pulpit Rock, down Devil's Staircase to Jubilee Hut and out via ABC cave, the Gap and Yellow Ridge. At the planning evening food was easily decided although the quantities seemed rather large. Would six people really eat a whole kilo of cheese for two lunches? The prospect of making a cheesecake, even if it was only a packet, was daunting. The reality proved much worse. The day arrived and off up the trail we went. The walking was the easiest part of the tramp. The problems started at the overnight camp. Had the whole of Bushcraft decided to camp at Jubilee Hut? It certainly seemed like it but this would only be to our benefit as we could barter for some margarine to make the afore mentioned cheesecake. Our planning had not been as good as at first thought. A superb four course meal was planned. As we ate the first course and cooked the second all was going well. Ross' billies were, it must be said, turning black. The problem it seemed was the meths cooker we were using. Then to the spaghetti bolognaise. One thing that had been impressed on me at the first evening was the high standard of cuisine that OMTG expected. It was quite obvious that only the best ingredients were used and that fresh preparation was important which is why I arrived at Jubilee Hut with a kilo of raw mince. The meal was cooked but we used an awful lot of fuel and it took a very long time. Due to the obstinate nature of the party next door bartering for margarine proved very difficult but we were a resourceful group producing a substitute ingredient. The long awaited contest between the primuses is best forgotten. Of more importance was our party's success with erecting a fly. What did happen to next door's fly in the middle of the night? The next day compass practice was undertaken and we got where we wanted! Peter, John and Tracy were great companion bushcrafters. We all learnt a lot and had great fun. Thanks to Ross and Neville for guiding us.

Elizabeth Treasure.



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SOCIAL SECRETARY

I've noticed a couple of things at club meetings which are disturbing and I feel discourteous to invited speakers.

If leaving before a speaker is finished PLEASE EXIT VIA THE KITCHEN. It makes less noise and isn't quite so obvious.

Please feel free to bring your knitting along BUT REFRAIN FROM SITTING IN THE FRONT ROW AND DOING IT. I personally think this is the height of bad manners.

ON A MORE POSITIVE NOTE keep up the large enthusiastic attendences at cluband keep those suggestions rolling in.

CHEERS ELSPETH

OHAW HIGHLIGHTS.

* Arriving in the rain, feeling seedy after our driver's attempts to reduce the rabbit population, the strains of "I love a rainy night" filtering from the National programme, did not appeal.

* Pitching our fly in the pouring rain - in a carefully chosen hollow without pegs or poles, while everyone else snuggled down in a REAL tent made us think twice too - (you can't sleep in a water melon Ross!!!)

* Sara, having problems with "water on the brain" admired Ross', in his luminous white underpants, fumbling attempts to drain the bulging fly. -

* Waking to Neville's rapturous grin was a high price to pay for our fly erection (the use of a tent pole!!!)

* The arrival of the sun gave an excellent excuse to leave our gear at Forks Hut (to dry out) allowing us to go on to Brodericks in comfort - except for the constant abuse and harassment from Anne which never waned all weekend - the comments becoming more personal as time went by!! We then returned at high speed due to the incentive of an 8 course meal.

*Congratulations Pam, we found Ross to be well trained, catering fully to the needs of his party - leaving Sara free to entertain the neighbouring men!!!!

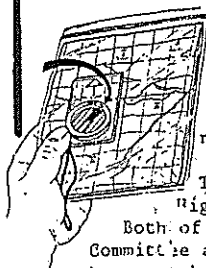
* After a three hour eating marathon, Ross over-indulged his liking for tarts - (the apricot variety), while Geraldine took great pleasure in sharing her passion for f_rts (the smelly kind!!) - based on the theory "better out than in"!!!!

* Stories of boarding school days and the rule "hands above the blankets" sprang immediately to mind as Ross clambered into his sleeping bag and groaned "Ooooooooooooh, that feels soooooooooo goooooooooood!!!!!!" Party members are still wondering what brought this ecstasy attack on.

* All in all, we'd sum it up as a really enjoyable "soggy toilet paper, cracked pepper" tramp.

R.A.G.S.

WANTED - - - UNKNOWN



We are two compasses SHORT (ie. not returned) following the Bushcraft Silverpeaks weekend. One of these was left on the roadside at the Hightop pickup area and may have been picked up by someone.

The other was handed in to a club member at the clubrooms when the Hightop bus returned to town.

Both of these compasses were loaned to us by Dunedin Mountain Safety Committee and it is somewhat embarrassing, not to say expensive that they have not been returned.

Please, Please anyone who has either of these with "NZMSC DUNEDIN BRANCH" scratched on it, contact ROSS COCKER at 545-995
NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

Well folks, I have received a letter from a new postal member. This person was once very popular and active in the club. It offers a different view point to last month's "Letter to the Editor".

Dear Ed,

The letter in last month's bulletin regarding bum fetishes has prompted me to write.

During our Christmas tramp I managed to photograph this well known member. I think you should have a contest and pin it on the notice board. Members would have to guess who's bum it is and more importantly, what he is doing?! Entry could cost \$1-00 and the prize could be a night out with the particular member (is that the right word?) in question - the proceeds could 'swell' the clubrooms fund.

Talking about fetishes I think it is disgusting and abnormal for any OTMC member to have or admit to having a fetish. Are there any schoolgirls in the club at the moment??

Regards An anonymous North Island Club Member.

PS. From a guys 'point of view' I think Rhonda Robinson's bum would take a lot of 'beating' - or is that another fetish?!

PPS Rumor has it that the old fella of the club (Doug) has a fetish about females shorts - did you ever find the owner of those female shorts Doug?

PPPS After being involved with four different tramping clubs since leaving Dunedin I am pleased to report that the OTMC is 'streets' ahead of the rest. Tops by far!!

I was disappointed I couldn't be with you for the marathon this year .

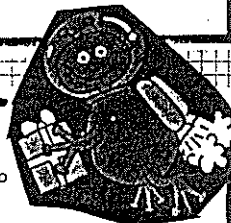
CHEERS!!

In the letter was a photo of this mystrey member and for all those keen to have a guess then see the Trips notice board at club. Watch out for that red face.

NEW MEMBERS

A Big Welcome from everyone to all these new members. We hope to see you in the hills lots of times.

Markus Milne	58 Ravensbourne Road	Mike McCartney	33 Beaumont Road
Cathy Berryment	41 Hugh Street	Judith Maguire	34 Burwood Avenue
Clare Cushen	6 Sutcliffe Street	Peter O'Driscoll	145 Glenpark Avenue
Geraldine de Souza	6 Montreal Street	Kaye French	Waitahuna, Lawrence
Hugh Dickson	11 McDonald Street	Dennis Price	3 Brent Street
Laurel Dunn	20 Matariki Street	Anne Schmack	12 Drivers Road
Pat Finnie	4 Will Street	Janette Service	163 A Bayview Road
Anton Fitchett	23 Duncan Street	Ralph Stablein	53 Cranley Street
Geoff Gray	41 Eglinton Road	Peter Swarbrick	Flat 3 30 Tennyson St
Vivan Harwood	131 Evans Street	Joanne Vaughan	30 Clifford Street
Dennis Kemp	48 Skibo Street	Heather Walton	4 Mount Street
Brenda McAlpine	15 Stevenson Road	David Ailnatt	96 Brockville Road
Barbara Pettinger	40 Crammond Avenue		



BUSHCRAFT - Rivercrossing

Bushcrafters and Instructors left their cars at Outram Glen and had a 10 minute walk to the first stop where we were shown a reasonably safe crossing - wide, shallow with a shingle bottom. We crossed the river and it was just over ankle deep but the bottom was very slippery and care had to be taken. The dangers were pointed out such as deep sweeping corner under the willows just below where we crossed.

Another 40 minutes up the track we scrambled down a bank to a completely different situation. The river was quite narrow and swift and deeper, with a drop into rapids. Bruce Mason crossed just above the rapids using a strong manuka pole to help him. He crossed reasonably easily but on his way back ventured nearer the rapids and the water was a lot stronger and not very safe.

Just a short walk to our final stop on a sandy bank beside a large open part of the river with a narrower lower part dropping away - our spot to practice.

After demonstrations we tried ourselves with a pole. The river was thigh to waist deep in places with large rocks to manoeuvre around.

After getting the technique right it felt quite safe to cross.

We each had at least 2 crossings to the other side and back then we were allowed our lunch. Luckily it was a good day but some people did find it chilly. A bit more sun would have been ideal.

After a peaceful lunch we tried the mutual support method using parties of 4. We linked arms to cross but it was a struggle moving, especially over the large rocks, and strong current. We then tried the mutual support method with arms linked and around poles. The more you did it the more confidence it gave you that this was the best method. With 4 or more people to a pole and with one being lifted off their feet we were still able to comfortably hold them up. I felt really confident about using the pole method.

Back at Outram Glen 2 kind people demonstrated floating downstream with packs on their back and front. Was encouraging to know packs float very well.

Many thanks must go to Bruce Mason for his talk at Tirohanga with excellent slides giving us an idea of the many different difficulties we have to consider when crossing rivers. Thanks also for his contribution at Outram Glen and to the Instructors that helped, we all benefited from it immensely. Overall Bushcraft 1990 was great and great people that run it. Thanks.

Laurel Dunn on behalf of all Bushcraft participants

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed

With regard to "Format of the Bulletin". So someone has suggested that pictures and gossip be kept out of the bulletin. What sort of person would dare suggest that humour be kept out of the Bulletin? My god would they also wish that we kept humor out of the trip reports? Same difference!! Hells, Bells, what a terrible thought. I really enjoy your bulletins and I hope you don't change them. I believe you should name that member so that the individual can ask him/her what they are trying to do.

To that person out there I also say SMILE. Remember laugh and the world laughs with you.

signed

Doug F

Dear Madam Editor

In reply to your "Editors Diary" in last months Bulletin, I think it is really great to see the Bulletin pages full of bits and pieces. I really enjoy the gossip column each month and as I remember how the Bulletin used to be, I see absolutely no faults with your efforts. As for the number of pictures, well who ever mentioned it, needs their head read. I for one, would not be interested in reading our newsletter if it was not interesting to look at. Newsletters such as our trusty Bulletin are supposed to be fun, entertaining reading and also informative.

Keep up the good work and I suggest you don't bother to listen to people who have nothing better to do than pick holes in other people's work.

signed

Pictures are worth a thousand words.

Dear Ed,

I've got a bit of a mystrey and I thought maybe you or perhaps the Chief Guide might have some idea.

While I was taking my Bushcraft party out for our walk in the Silverpeaks, we came across a tribe, who thought lost forever. It was all a bit of a mystrey because we only saw them from a distance and when we made the effort to meet them they vanished. They had a most unusual language as we watched they jumped up and down, waving their arms in the air calling out "Where the fucarwe!!"

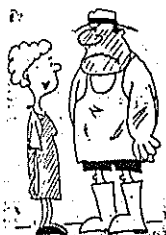
Any ideas on the existance of these people would be most helpful.

signed

The Phantom

ED - Well Phantom I have had a word with the Chief Guide on this matter and after looking over some ancient files, it seems that when Bushcraft first started up an unsuspecting leader lost his party in the Silverpeaks weekend and after numerous searches were never found. They have been long thought dead but it appears that maybe they have become hermits, living in the peaks.

OTMC Hot Gossip



Is it really true??

A certain married couple in the club kept well alone in the "couples quarters" at ABC Bush on the Silverpeaks weekend. Rumors were flying but no one really knows what went on in this secluded place except the couple themselves.

Ross Cocker and Antony Pettinger thought they had done so well by cutting a track through the prickles on the hills of Tirohanga. Cathy Berryman could not agree "some of those were nearly as tall as me!!"



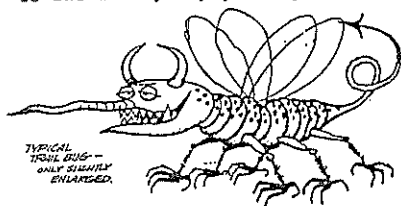
"Those pink gum boots I bought you look nice. They match your face."

All the Bushcrafterees got to meet Doug's wee baby. He even managed to get it to burn (in more ways than one). He became most upset when his baby would not do as told. This so-called Gem turned out to be a burning example to us all. Maybe one day, who knows, it may really show us all that it does work. Keep talking to it Doug!

I heard somewhere that one instructor couldn't get his party to the top of the hills on the compass course. It was a surprise they even finished. Could this man really be leading the club to better things?

A RECOMMENDATION TO NEVILLE Don't give your stove away, Throw It - From you know who is still trying to restore the pristine nature of his billy!!

Two wise and "experienced" OTMC members were instructing at Tirohanga. When it comes to Tents, well what these two didn't know wasn't worth knowing - that is until they try putting a fly on the wrong way on a tent. An excellent way on how not to do it and after all, it was the Bushcrafterees who found out first!



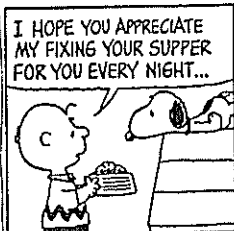
TYPICAL TRAIL BUG - ONLY SLIGHTLY ENLARGED.

THE CHIEF GUIDE TURNS 21 in early May!! Does this mean he has finally come of age??!

The club has recently purchased a helicopter for Tirohanga purposes, anyone wanting further information are to contact Mike Floate.

That's all folks and keep up the tramping. I hope you have all enjoyed yourselves and this Bulletin is a memento of the course.

SEE YOU IN THE HILLS SOON.....Debbie



WHAT'S ON WHAT'S ON WHAT'S

SOCIAL PROGRAMME



APRIL 12 no club night due to easter.

APRIL 19 ERIC AND JULIE LORD. Bushwalking in southeast Australia. Tramping aussie style. Eric and Julie lived in Australia for 3 years know heaps about the area and know how to make a club night interesting.

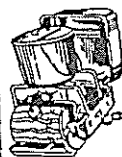
This is phase one of a series of slide shows.

APRIL 26 B.Y.O. Slides. We haven't had one of these for a while so bring out all those slides from recent and not so recent trips. I know of a few epic xmas that should be seen.

MAY 3 Greenpeace. Catriona Matheson from Dunedin Greenpeace is going to give a slide show on what this group is all about and perhaps what we as individuals concerned with our environment can do to help. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion.
Promises to be an interesting evening.

MAY 10 Just what is O.R.G. F.M.C. S.A.R. Club members enlighten us as to what these initials stand for and invite feedback. Just what you've always wanted to know but been too afraid to ask.

MAY 17 Cooking competition. This has been specially requested. A super social night, bring along some drinkies to enable you to cook better and enhance the flavour while sampling.



RULES only 1 you must use primuses and billies
BEST 1 billy meal
BEST gourmet meal

JUDGES Doug Forrester-- a renowned cook in his own right and Pam Cocker-- also a pretty good cook.
All food must be consumed on the premises by eager entrants and volunteers so bring eating utensils.

GREAT PRIZES. (honestly no names on the supper roster this time).

Come on enter into the fun spirit of this fun evening