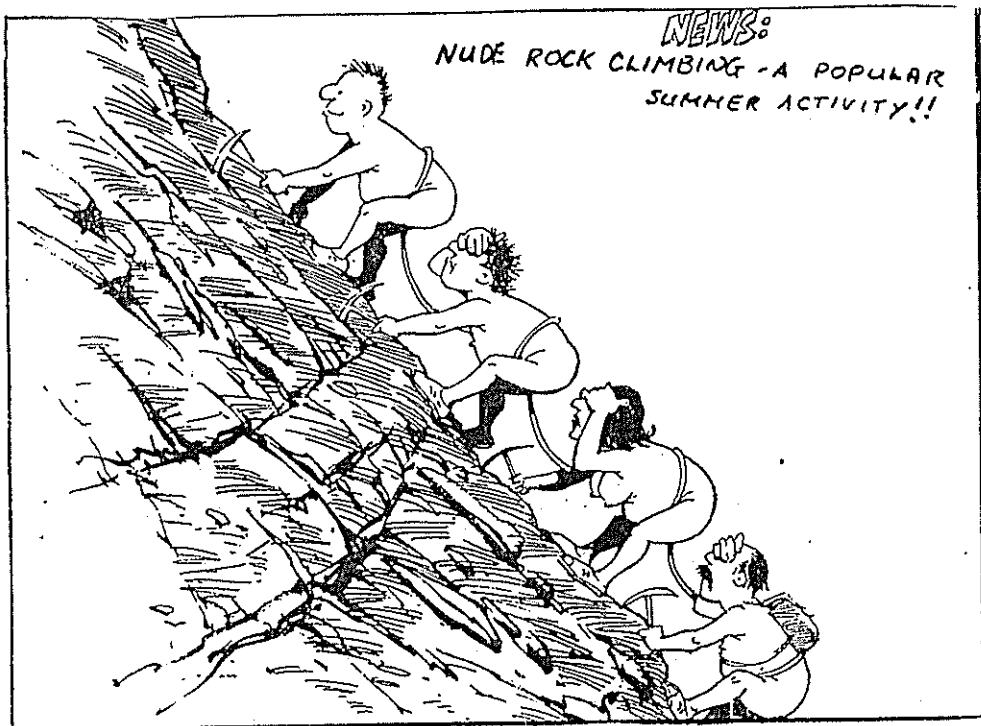


Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

BULLETIN

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

NOVEMBER 1990
BULLETIN NO. 493



| | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|
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THE OTAGO TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEETS EVERY THURSDAY

AT 7-30 PM

AT 3 YOUNG STREET
(clubrooms)

TRIP LIST



NOVEMBER 11

WORK PARTY (M)

Peter Mason 473-7636

Come along and do your bit of track or hut maintenance.
Probable destination Jubilee Hut.

NOVEMBER 17-18

CATLINS COAST / PURAKAUNUI BAY (E-M)

Peter Mason 473-7636

Cruisy coastal tramping - probably 2 day trips. This trip could be very social.

NOVEMBER 18

ROCK & PILLARS (M)

Eric Lord 454-3043

This will be a circuit, visiting both Leaning Lodge and Big Hut. NOTE: 8am start.

NOVEMBER 24-25

ROUTE BURN/GREENSTONE/CAPLES THROUGH TRIP

David Barnes 454-4492

This trip will be full by the time you read this.
We'll run another one next year for those who miss out.

NOVEMBER 25

MAUNGATUA (M)

Sharon St Clair-Newman 476-3918

An excellent day trip, with great views.

DECEMBER 2

NUGGETS (M)

Elsbeth Gold 479-2022

Elsbeth's an expert on this area, so a great^{trip} is assured.

DECEMBER 2

INTRODUCTION TO ROCKCLIMBING Arthur Blondell 489-7633

An essential skill for those with alpine aspirations and a useful one for any tramping and a popular Summer activity - this day has something for everyone.

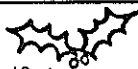
DECEMBER 9

BURNS TRACK

Dave Levick 473-8427

The Burns Track is a semi-mythical access way to the Silver Peaks. Dave will prove that it does exist.

XMAS TRIP - PAPAROA'S NATIONAL PARK



This trip will leave Dunedin on the 26th December for approximately 10 days, in private cars. There is a range of possible trips.

The Paparoa's are on the West Coast between Westport and Greymouth. The National Park is close to the "Pancake Rocks", Punakaiki, which most of you probably know. It's limestone country, with towering bluffs, beautiful rivers and is littered with historical sites from goldmining days.

We've been hankering to get back for a couple of years now as it's such a magic place, so don't miss out!

Sue & David Levick 473-8427



EDITOR'S DIARY

Well, judging by the size of the Bulletin this month, some of you have been away in the hills.

I've been shut up inside for the past month or so, studying for exams. Now that I've finished (Yay, Yay), you'll see a lot more of me around the Club on Thursday nights and away on some trips.

I was impressed with the amount of trip reports, letters and of course gossip received this month. Keep up the good work. If you've never written a trip report before, now could be your chance. Be in before the rush.

Doug certainly stirred up some feeling amongst members regarding the Waikaia Bush Road. My opinion is that this road closure would set a precedent for other road closures if we did not try to oppose it. Of course not everyone is interested in the nitty gritty of letter writing and phoning people, but your support must help. If you are interested in getting more involved, or just seeing what happens, see Stuart Mathieson. He is running the Outdoor Recreation Group this year.

Christmas is looming nearer, so keep the 8th of December free for the Christmas Social. This should be a good night and the Club's first Christmas in our own home. Be there!

Well, my first tramping foray (since Easter, actually) will be to the Catlins Coast. This is where the 'cruisy coastal tramping' is. I'll probably be doing more of the 'cruising' than the tramping, but it should be a good way to start Summer tramping after a Winter of slothfulness.

Until next month

Sue

p.s. thank yourself if you remembered to bring all your empty aluminium cans along to the Club.



Silvereye

SECRETARY'S CORNER



Giddy everyone, not a lot has come the Secretary's way this month. Ken Mason was given permission to remove club photos from the Hocken Library and we can now see them in the "historic corner". Many thanks was passed onto the Kiwi Conservation Club for pulling out exotic plants at the Ben Rudds property. The big issue is that the Walkways working party of the DCC is asking for public submissions, due by 19 November. We receive bulletins from a lot of other tramping clubs and environmental groups which are placed on the shelves at the back of the clubrooms. These make good reading if you get the chance.

Eric Lord



Celmisia semiorдата

PERSONAL PROFILE

Ian Sime joined OTMC aged 49 after doing Bushcraft. Had done some tramping in his youth with his brother but without any instruction. Enjoys Easy and occasional Medium trips. Retired 3 years early from teaching at KVHS because of cataracts. Has had one operated on, and is now waiting 12 months till hospital saves enough money to do the other. Loves being retired. Recommends it to anyone over 50 who can afford it. Spends some of his time as local Mountain Safety Admin Officer, and some more of it doing voluntary work for World Vision, mainly promoting the 40 Hour Famine each year in local schools. Married to Betty. Thinks grandchildren are a great idea. Favourite areas: Caples and Hopkins. Telephone NOT as listed on current trip card, but as on Bulletin.

DAY TRIP 7 OCTOBER OTAGO PENINSULA

A wonderful morning, fresh snow on the ground, and a moderate S W breeze whipping up the Southern Ocean to whitecaps, greeted us as we descended Buskin Road in the lee of the ridge to our right. We found the road formation fairly easily and ambled down the trail. Reassured by the presence of styles and white markers, we moved out into the windswept meadow and down past the buildings smothered in macrocarpa. Along the bottom road to the World Wildlife Refuge looking to spot a YEP- but nope, no dwarves waddled into view. "Hoiho, hoiho, its off to the beach we go".

After seeing this area featured on Bellamy's Moa's Ark the night before, we found John Darby's little box on the cliff, looking from a distance like a Bruce Mason comfort palace. Back along the boulders for a bite to eat in the sand dunes among the little three-toed footprints, we had a discussion about the volcanic eruptions 10 million years ago, prompted by the gas bubbles in the rocks and the layers of lava visible in the cliffs along the southern end of the bay. Dinosaurs also got into the conversation; our little dwarf mates in danger of a similar fate due to the stripping of the coastal forest cover, and the stripping of their food supply from the ocean.

I found the whole place very sobering; mankind is developing a lonely planet in the name of economic progress. Its a pity that there's no room for anything low-tech like wildlife habitat. I guess two or three sheep are worth more than our seagoing buddies.

Next a gentle stroll up another disused road to the tarseal, walking head to wind back to the cattery-doggery with its howling pets; a lone windsurfer skimming far below across the backup sewerage disposal pond; and back to town in time for Steve Broni's talk on coastline conservation.

A very pleasant day, and thanks to those that came- and thanks to Peninsula Walkers for bringing these roads back from the brink of extinction.

John Cox for Steve, & Mary.



CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

8th December 6.30pm



This years Christmas Social will be a casual buffet dinner followed by a dance or a rave - whatever takes your fancy. It is to be held at the OTMC hall, 3 Young St.

A childrens corner will be set up for the offspring of club members, so please feel free to bring the little ones and their toys along.

There will be cooking facilities available i.e. a microwave and a micro-convection oven - no hot plates, though.

To cover costs of hiring a stereo system a small charge will be payable, details will be given at a later date. I will need numbers of those intending to come for the dinner so that the hall can be set up.

Hope to see you all there...

GREEN LAKE MONSTER REVISITED
or Warm Wash, Cold Rinse and Hold

MONOWAI OCT 20, 21, 22



Despite unplanned detours, (Eric's van through Manapouri, the Chief Guide via Te Anau) we all managed to reach our starting points at a reasonable time on Friday night, with the Lake Monowai site being shared with the Taieri High School students and snorers and a variety of other trampers. Three parties set off in a still morning towards Green Lake, with Rhonda's well ahead, leaving fossickers behind.

The track is well marked, with a number of circuits round fallen trees and boggy areas. The gentle incline becomes more marked as the second half of the track continues - beware two side tracks possibly to Borland Lodge area. There is water in the streams on the lower levels that is drinkable, but a longer section in the middle of the track with boggy, rather than clear water when you begin to puff a bit more!

The bush is mainly beech forest and undergrowth, with a change to scrub only after crossing the stream shortly before coming up onto the saddle. Bird life is plentiful if you stop and listen, and there were signs of orchids coming up in the mosses and stumps along the track, with the boggier bits promising all sorts of botanical delights later in the season.

From the saddle, one gets a good view back over Monowai to the South, and breathtaking views towards Green Lake and Rocky Tops before heading down towards the lake itself. The track winds in and out of small gullies that flow steeply into the lake (which has no single inlet or outlet) until reaching lake level, where the track can be followed through the bush or the last few hundred feet can be walked along the lake front. Good camping spots (with Pigmy bivvy) can be found at the bush edge on both sides of the tussock. An A-frame hut (cosy for two, snug for three and I suspect cramped for four) is located at the far end of the tussock at the edge of the lake. It is a lovely hut, but I suspect that it will become abused now that the Borland road is open and the hut more accessible. However, the protection of the Green Lake Monster may save this hut - further sightings have been authenticated over the weekend, when the Monster attacked again when unbelieving were seen to swim in his territory. Feared extinct, the GLM was first sighted by a party of OTMC trampers in the area a year ago, when Catherine Soper escaped only with the help of John Galloway who wrested the Monster from its stranglehold on her....arm!!! All further sightings should be reported to DOC or the nearest OTMC member.

A good day trip from Green Lake will take you over a very soggy saddle to Island Lake, which is much shallower and warmer lake, with grassy swampy edges. Again, there are good campsites in this area. A well marked track heads down towards the Grebe River and Clarke's Hut, through beech forest and tussock flats, each with its own clear gravelly stream. Peaks can be seen from the clearings. Having started the day with a gentle warm shower, (of rain), we found that it got colder and wetter, as time went on and Bruce's fears of 'cold rinse and hold' came true! Having invited Dennis' party to join us at our campsite for the evening, we found that our accommodation for rainy conditions was not adequate and managed to borrow Rhonda's fly, as she was safely ensconced in the hut. Having a dining room puts a totally different light on things when entertaining in the rain!

We headed out in the rain on Monday, with Bruce and Ken heading out with Rhonda's party to the Borland Rd (2hrs) and Teresa joining with Dennis' party to return down to Lake Monowai. (5 hrs).

A wet weekend, and not many of us did what we set out to do - but it was fun!

Warning - Beware the Green Lake Monster, Ken's snoring, and Bruce's overly generous helpings of pasta!!

Enjoy - good company, scintillating conversation, wonderful scenery and very stimulating swimming. (an interesting way to describe self-inflicted punishment - Ed)

It must be noted with regret that even a John Galloway fire was unsuccessful on Saturday night in the rain.

Teresa Wasilewska, Bruce Newton and Ken Powell.

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FAIRYDOWN

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THE BEN OHAU TRIP

OR

HOW TO SEE THE SOUTH ISLAND IN ONE WEEKEND

Eight of us in two cars set off up the main drag on a wet and windy Friday night.

The practically mandatory "greasies" at Damaru and on into dry mild weather up the Waitaki valley.

Bedded down for the night in a picnic ground just north of Twizel, still in mild, dry weather.

Woke at 6.00a.m. to about 25mm of snow and still falling thickly.

Breakfast of muesli, milk and freshly manufactured snowflakes.

At this stage it was decided that it might be unwise to continue on towards Mt. Cook in blizzard conditions, so we broke camp and moved to Twizel seeking a weather forecast. The only business open was a service station and the attendant told us it was snowing! Ask a silly question-----.

At this point Mike Floate offered the use of his crib at Taras, so off over the Lindis Pass which was fortunately clear of snow and ice and, after exploring one or two sideroads, we arrived just before lunch in dry, cold conditions.

Lunch in the "civilized" conditions of Mikes' barbecue area and we set off to explore the old Bendigo gold diggings, where we spent an enjoyable four hours or so tramping the hillsides, looking at old stone houses, and dropping stones down mineshafts. I LOVED IT! Falling down mineshafts has been a recurring nightmare of mine over many years and I reckon I've now accumulated enough new ones for the foreseeable future; especially as, with my hearing deficiency, I was unable to hear the echo!

Back to Mikes about six and dinner cooked in the primitive conditions of a four plate electric stove and hot water on tap.

Bed about 10.30, and it was interesting to note that, among these hardened trampers, there wasn't a rush to sleep on the floor!

Denis said I snored. I didn't hear him. I was asleep.



"Broke camp" before 8.00 and off to the Pisa range across the valley with a view to finding Lake McKay, high up on the range.

A steady uphill slog for the next four hours found us having lunch in the lee of a large rock well above the snowline.

Now our valiant leader thought the lake was probably "just over the next ridge" (how often have I heard that one); however, three of us decided to call it a day and moseyed off back down over our foot-steps in the snow in the general direction of the cars.

For the others the next ridge proved to be the right one and they were soon chasing us down so that we all arrived back at the cars about three hours from the lunch stop.

A very welcome milkshake at Cromwell, a feed of "greasies" at Roxburgh and we completed the round trip to Sth Dunedin at the very reasonable hour of 9.00 p.m.

A most enjoyable, if unexpected weekend, with the added advantage that we've still got Ben Ohau to look forward to.

Hugh Dickson.

for Clare Cushins, Judy Maguire, Mary Clarke, Jonette Service, Denis Kemp, Dean Petersen, and our valiant guide and host Mike Floate.

SNOW I - SEPT 8-9

Despite problems finding suitable snow, we all judged this weekend a great success!! Arthur managed to enjoy not getting very far, Ian McE learned that he can't be Spiderman and Dennis began his questionable habit of finding comfortable Sat night campspots for himself and the party!! Teresa managed to survive a 6am start on Saturday morning, Tim's snoring, and learnt that Dean has a wicked sense of humour.

We arrived at Mitchell's Cottage in the middle of the first of a series of snow flurries, with strong winds and sleet/hail showers. Having reconsidered in the Alex coffee shop for two hours, we started off up the road from the highest point we could take the cars - after an hour, Arthur called a noble retreat to the miner's cottage for lunch, then back to the cars. The afternoon was spent fossicking and rock climbing, with Arthur demonstrating the distinct advantages of long legs and arms at such times - Dean did a credible imitation, but Ian somehow lacked a few inches....

Finding an up-to-date weather forecast became a bit of a problem once we returned to Alex; try the Radio Central Office, who were highly efficient and very helpfully provided us with the most recent info through covering that area. We decided to stay in the area and make another attempt on Sunday. After inspecting a couple of campsites, we had a bit of a climb to a lovely flat, soft area, with excellent facilities nearby - the upstairs bunkroom at the Alex Motor Camp is well worth a visit!! HOT SHOWERS and all. We wonder what reception Arthur will get next time he returns - the manager knew him of old, but stopped short in the middle of his greeting to look again at Dean's legs, tastefully encased in sheer longjohns, reaching all the way to the ground! "I've seen some things in my life", he said, "but those legs take the cake!" - who will be runner-up for the long legs competition????

Sunday dawned colder but drier and we managed to drive higher up Simes Rd before taking day packs and heading for the snow. Arthur lead us across the tops to look for snow gullies worth practicing self-arrest and crampon work, but we were unable to find suitable snow until we began to return to the cars after a chilly lunch on the tops. Having spent a couple of hours totally annihilating a beautiful snow drift with all our amateur attempts at self-arrest, we had a slippery parka competition, where Dean came out uncontested winner, having slid further down the slippery slope than any of the rest of us!

Although we certainly can't claim to have had much practice, we have at least gained some knowledge of the basic principles of crampon work and self-arresting - thanks, Arthur, for being so patient!! And, it was a great weekend!

Tim Moore, Rhonda Robinson, Dean Peterson, Arthur Blondell, Dennis Kemp, Ian McElhinney, Teresa Wasilewska and Rosemary Goodyear.

LABOUR WEEKEND at LAKE MONOWAI

Two vans headed away for the three day weekend. Both vans, including the one driven by the Chief Guide, missed The Key turnoff. Our van paid a visit to Manapouri after missing a second turnoff while the CG's van went all the way to Te Anau! A lovely warm night greeted us when we finally arrived at Lake Monowai, but our party decided to spend the night on the mattresses in the van for a cosy night's sleep.

Morning came and we soon realised we were not alone as a Taieri High School party of 19 were getting ready for the boat ride to the head of Lake Monowai. As usual our party was last to start out and the sign on the track says 5 Hours to Green Lake so it should be a relaxing day (touch wood). Our first hold-up was running into Bruce Newton's group. Should get past them, but alas Sharon's pack needs repacking and readjusting so an early long stop. Away again with some gentle climbing and avoiding bogs. Lunchtime came, should be a good distance along the track, but it was very difficult to tell where we were being stuck in the bush. We caught up on Bruce's party having lunch and almost managed to swipe their sherry bottle. We carried on further and crossed the Walker River which confirmed my worst fears of how long we were taking to get up this track and thoughts of taking a side trip to Mt. Cuthbert disappeared. Taking it step by step we made it to the top of the saddle for a great view of Green Lake and the surrounding mountains. Well worth the effort girls. Now for a short (well almost short) run down to the lake and a relaxing time by the shore. I carried on to set up camp near the old bivvy where the bush ends. When everyone caught up including Bruce's party we decided to continue on to the Green Lake Hut (an excellent hut built in 1985, will sleep up to 8 but not much room to do anything else) as it looked like it was going to rain overnight. So we got to the hut at 7pm, almost 10 hours!!! We were ready for a good night's sleep again on mattresses.

Sure enough the rain came during the night and it looked like the rain was planning on staying all day. Breakfast entertainment was provided by a Crested Grebe paddling in the lake and diving for up to 25 seconds before surfacing about 10 m away. Our first visitors for the day were Bruce, Teresa and Ken for morning tea and the resurrection of the Green Lake monster. Our second lot of visitors included Dennis Kemp's party who had come from Island Lake, along with a dozen or so people from the Hokonui TC who were doing a day walk from the Borland Road to Lake Monowai (yes the Borland Road is now open during the spring/summer months as far as the South Arm). A slower group of Hokonui TC people piled into the hut with us to have their lunch. They were heading back to the Borland Road. Now our chance to have lunch since we decided to go for the van at the Borland road left by Dennis's party. No sooner had we filled the space left by the Hokonui group Rhonda's party arrived from spending a wet night up near Mt. Cuthbert. We left Green Lake about 2pm with our bellies filled with Green Lake monster soup. Tramping through the bog up the slope we came across the Taieri group coming down. We did a detour to Island Lake and as we were about to take a photo of the still lake and surroundings a topless woman jumps into the lake further along the shore screaming and shouting. One of a number of Forest and Bird people around here for the weekend. We arrived at the hut (2 beds but a lot more room to move around) near the Borland Road after having seen about 60 people during the day! Is opening the Borland Road such a good idea? At least we had our third night again on mattresses.

Monday dawned bright and sunny but as soon as Julie put her shorts on the cloud and then rain came. Never mind we only planned to walk along the Borland Rd as far as time allowed. We got to the Grebe Valley lookout - a magnificent view and a very impressive valley to look down upon. The rain was persisting so back to the van for lunch. Both Rhonda's and Bruce's parties came out early so away we went at 3pm.

Eric Lord for Julie Lord, Sharon Ley and Ruth Chisman.



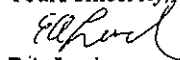
Kaka

YOUR VIEWS

Dear Sue,

Once again the issue of trip grades needs to be brought up. As trip leader for the Lake Monowai trip I was confronted with a list of 19 names of which 17 had put down "M" the other honest two put "M-F". Many of the names I did not no and by rights I could have put all the names in a hat and drawn them out to make up the parties with probable disastrous combinations. Fortunately information I received from ringing around and from people ringing me allowed me to group all these Ms into hopefully compatible parties. As it turned out there was quite a huge spread of fitness levels within all of these Ms. So please when you put down your trip grade be honest with yourself and use intermediate grades. Those who want to go on longer tramps make more use of the M-F and F gradings and if you really want to gun it use the FE grade. At the other end of the scale if you think your fitness is not great use the E-M grade. Doing this will make it so much easier for the trip leader to organise food parties.

Yours sincerely,



Eric Lord

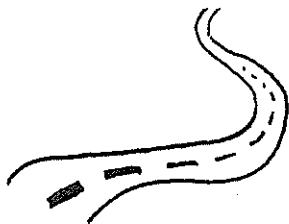
Dear Ed,

I would like to say that I support Doug's comments about how we deal with rights of access and ownership of land etc, etc, on Thursday, 27th Sept meeting. Being a new member of this Club I've noticed that the Club spends a lot of time and effort pushing views, sometimes by a minority, on issues which I feel are too troublesome. We shouldn't get off-side with Land-owners. Usually they are fair, from my dealings with them. Maybe we could work a little close with Land-owners rather than trying to work around them.

This road up to the Old Man Range. Why use the road? Why don't we walk? We are after all, trampers. On a recent trip to the Remarkables, our avalanche instructor said groups often do snow-caving just off the Ski Field.

So, good on you Doug. Your comments might make people think! If you missed Doug's comments, I'm sure that he will bring the subject up again.

Paul.



WHO NEEDS A ROAD?

Imagine you are driving to the golf club, and you are stopped by a sign saying 'ROAD CLOSED'. You have to walk the last 5 km to your playground because the local council don't want to spend money on the road.

This is the situation regarding skiers who wish to use the Bain's Block on the Old Man Range for recreation in winter. A public road to this 4000 hectare block of public land is in danger of being either closed each winter, or even closed altogether permanently. So watch your newspaper's public notices for a notice from the Central Otago District Council. Objections will be asked for and you should object in writing.

WHY?

Because other councils are also pressed for cash and could save money by closing roads that are mostly used by 'townies' for access to their recreation. Some roads that come to mind are most of the gravel roads that lead past the last farmhouse and into wilderness areas and parks.

So all you members of the Otago Tramping and Motoring Club, keep in mind that a local body may change a 2 day tramp into a 4 day tramp by closing the last stretch of road. You might have to walk to Monument Hut from the Maitland bridge, or to Mavora Lakes from god-knows-where, or some other favourite hideaway valley may become less accessible. Because we are a minority sport we have to make a big noise, and stir like crazy for access to our playing fields. Keep in mind the hours spent driving in relation to the time spent tramping-not to mention being geographically embarrassed! The Waikaia Bush Road issue is an opening battle in what could become a long war for reasonable vehicular access.

My own enquiries have lead to one common focus: there is a need to test the justice of the road closure in a court of law. FMC has offered to come to the party for half the cost. Local interests need to come up with the other half. If you are interested then consider pledging money to the appeal, talk to Mike Floate or Bruce Mason at club night. Of course you could sit on the fence-possibly the same one that is soon to be across your access road, after it's been closed to vehicles.

John Cox for any party that only has 2 day weekends.

OTMC Outdoor Recreation Group Tactics

I was very interested in Doug Forrester's and Ken Mason's comments on Thursday the 27th, right after the SGM. In a way, the topic could be addressed in a General Meeting, allowing all members some time beforehand to come along prepared to argue!

I agree with both Doug and Ken. I feel there are things, like public access to public land, that must be fought for. I believe strongly that the Waikaiti Bush Road must be kept open to traffic to that high gate, because of the high number of users, the rarity of such a setting for all the uses the OTMC has used it for over the decades, and the principle of the thing.

However, though I recognise Ken's argument that you must fight these battles, and get dirty if your opponent gets dirty, I believe we might end up losing the war. These councillors and farmers have long memories. I believe they would never let us beat them a second time. For this reason, I believe we must be unconfrontational if at all possible.

My memory isn't that short either. It wasn't so long ago that one of the Chief Guide's principal duties was to provide the trip leader with the name and phone number of any farmer whose land we would use in any great way on a trip. The leader would gain all necessary permissions. The earliest bulletins and trip cards set the scene for the Club to be always cooperative with farmers. This is still firmly in my mind whenever the Club does a trip on farmland. I have never been in Christmas Creek from Hindon without asking the farmer's permission to follow that legal road. All trips to the western Takitimu Mountains are preceded with a phone call to the appropriate runholder. This pays off: At Tower Peak Station Mr Speight invariably lets the Club use the shearers' quarters on Friday night; I have had to make calls to or from those farmhouses when someone has been overdue. I have enjoyed tea and cakes with these people. I feel we know and understand one another better, and they just want to know who is on, or think they are on a legal road over, their farm.

Contrast this with a recent scheduled trip to the Peninsula the OTMC made. The leader had to deny that this was an OTMC trip or we would not have been able to make the trip. The farmer was cordial when we met him, but he was looking around for a certain face in the group or any hint of an organised Peninsula Walkers type event. The leader said: "We are just a group of friends on a little wander." This was a bad day for the OTMC!!

We need to weigh up what is to be gained and what lost by taking action that will upset the owners or managers of the land we use.

On that note, let me put one other point to ponder: The Department of Conservation is set up to be the "green voice of government". However, some staff members feel they have little knowledge of recreation issues. They're all familiar with Bruce's plan "Outdoor Recreation in Otago", but I believe they need closer contact with the people out there using their estate. They have stated that they will always listen to us. Knowing our views, they could make more confident decisions about the issues that affect users. If the OTMC and DoC knew what each other was trying to achieve, there would be mutual understanding, if not, acceptance. Any cordial, respectful atmosphere would be beneficial. At the moment, the OTMC's credibility is at a low ebb there and it will not be easy to restore things. It is in the OTMC's long term interest to treat others with respect and, once we've won that, then try to change their minds to suit us. Nothing will be achieved by going over the top. Those among us who want to go further are welcome to, but it would be inappropriate if they damaged the partnership the OTMC should have with these people.

That's my say. What about your opinions, you lot?

Richard Pettinger.

Dear Ed,

Just a wee short note to say thanks to everyone who signed my
farewell card and calendar.
I was touched, but not as often as I would have liked.

Hope you all have a great Summer.

All the best,

Ian.

P.S. I'm down at 3 cans of Speights, and I don't think I'm
going to make it!



Kohutuhutu kohutuhuku (Tree Fuschia) *Fuschia extorticata*
- dark purple fruits ripe in Dec - Jan, edible.
- medicinal use of this plant is connected with vapour baths after a woman
has borne a child.
- early settlers used the bark as a substitute for tobacco.
Reprinted from OTMC Bulletin 11/80

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Old, scruffy no longer loved sleeping bag, suitable for donating
to thieves in South America.

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OTAC Hot Gossip



in its full glory

It has been confirmed that DAVID BARNES was the winner of the Titarao Hairy Chest Competition, with a marginal lead over Michael Fay (2nd) and Ross Cocker (last). Obviously all the drinks you had on your wedding anniversary didn't put any hairs on YOUR chest, Ross - better luck next time.
(Entry requirement minimum of 5 hairs. Ross & Mike failed by default.)

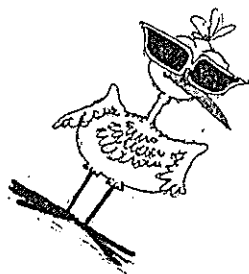
* Speaking of chests, apparently Harbour Cone on the Peninsula has another (biological) name, according to a self appointed place-namer within the club. (male, of course)

* David Barnes has another hidden "talent" (???) He was the winner of the North Borland Hut 3 day farting competition for 1990. For this event, held every 4 years, David used all his experience gained when he came second to Paul Olsen in 1986. It was a double success!!!!

* Scandal has rocked the Walton household after Heather received a phone call from one of our 'OLDER AND BOLDER' members asking when she plans to come out tramping again - is this favouritism???? We assure her family that we will look after her!

* Best kept secret of 1990. Why are Doug and Ross so modest about the discovery of a new lake???? Why do they seem so retiring about their achievements???

* One among us who normally keeps her legs well hidden, was unimpressed upon being told that she had "luscious legs" on a recent stroll down State Highway 1.



"And so you just threw everything together!... Ross, a posse is something you have to organize."

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

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

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The programme for the next few weeks....

- Nov 8 **Mt Cook National Park** - climbing and highlights by Ewen Cadzow.
- Nov 15 **BYO slides and photographs** - any recent trips you wish to show other members. To encourage us onto the Christmas trip there will be slides of the Paparoa's.
- Nov 22 **An Antarctic summer spent as a Geologist** - geology and climbing as seen by Simon Cox of the Alpine Club.
- Nov 29 **Alternative food for tramping** - Martin Connell on behalf of New Image International.
- Dec 6 **Kenya - from the deep to a peak** - compliments of Mike Floate.
- Dec 8 **Pre-Christmas Dine and Dance** Pot-luck & BYO (drinks and music) in the OTMC clubrooms.
- Dec 13 **Night on the Park /BYO** - weather and grounds permitting we shall have fun out on a local park so bring some frizbees, bats and balls etc. Otherwise bring some slides for all to see.
- Dec 20 **Wine and Cheese** - a social chat for the last club evening of 1990.
- Jan 17 **Social get together** - time to catch up with fellow trampers after the Christmas break.

Attendances over the last few weeks have been great, this is encouraging for your new-found Social Secretary. So please keep it up!!!!

Kind regards Julie

