

OTAGO TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB  
P.O. BOX 1120 DUNEDIN

# BULLETIN

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DECEMBER 1990  
BULLETIN NO. 494



PRESIDENT	Elsbeth Gold	453-0644
VICE PRESIDENT	Rhonda Robinson	473-8142
SECRETARY	Eric Lord	454-4043
TREASURER	Christine Cocks	473-8329
CHIEF GUIDE	David Barnes	454-4492
DAY TRIP CONVENOR		
& TRAINING OFFICER	Antony Pettinger	473-7924
EDITOR	Sue Levick	473-8427
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Ian Sime	453-6185
SOCIAL SEC.	Julie Lord	454-4043
GEAR HIRE	Sharon St Clair-Newman	476-3918

THE OTAGO TRAMPING & MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEETS EVERY THURSDAY

7:30 PM

AT 3 YOUNG STREET

(clubrooms)

# TRIP LIST

DECEMBER 2

NUGGETS (M)

Elspeth Gold 479-2022

Elspeth's an expert on this area, so a great trip is assured.

DECEMBER 2

INTRODUCTION TO ROCK CLIMBING

Arthur Blondell 489-7633

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

DECEMBER 9

BURNS TRACK

David Levick 473-8427

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

DECEMBER 15-16

ROCK AND PILLARS

Stuart Mathieson 453-4359

A weekend away without a five hour drive, and the chance to use our very own huts.

DECEMBER 16

SILVERPEAK - MOUNT JOHN CIRCUIT (M F)

David Barnes 545-4492

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS TRIP - PAPAROA'S

Sue & Dave Levick 473-8427

Visit a unique part of the country - NZ's newest national park.

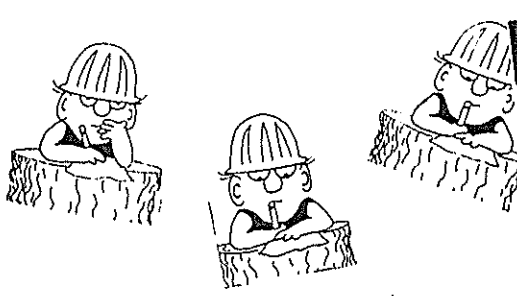


Exciting New Adult Product!

MALE ENHANCEMENT KITS

Titroa hairy chest adhesive.  
Hurry white stocks last.

Kit contains large assortment  
of pine-needles and body  
adhesive.



# EDITORS DIARY

Well, another year is almost over and thoughts will be turning to the Christmas festivities and holiday time.

1990 has been an eventful year for the Club. We had all the usual social events; the Annual Picnic, the Mid-Winter Wine & Dine (Trotters Gorge), the Annual Dinner and these were mainly well supported.

Trips and club nights have been well supported throughout the year. I feel that the support of members is ensuring a strong future for the Club, especially as we now have the "home base" of our own Clubrooms.

Bushcraft was a great success with a few Bushcraftees staying to join the ranks of the Club. The next Bushcraft course will soon be upon us, and looks as if it will run very smoothly. See Antony Pettinger if you can help.

This month's Bulletin has the usual crop of trip reports, including some short reports of day trips. If you are on a day trip, don't hesitate to write a report. Newer members are encouraged to go on day trips to start their tramping careers and improve fitness. Trip reports from day trips help keep us all up-to-date with what happens on Sundays.

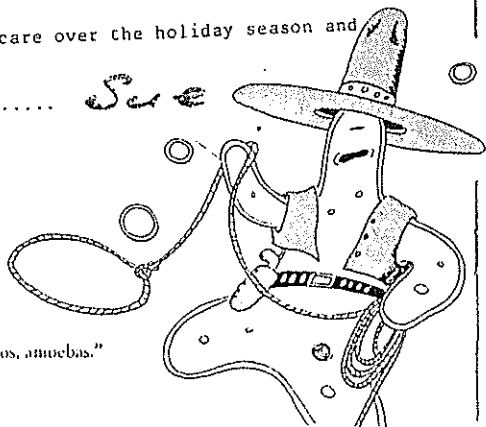
This month we also have some verse describing the deeds of the past Committee. For those who didn't make it to the Annual Dinner, it has now been translated for all to read. The poet is David Peacock.

Also, don't forget the Christmas Social on this Saturday. This will be a casual night in the Clubrooms. Bring the family, something for the barbecue and some cans. See you there.

Well, that's all from me this year. Take care over the holiday season and we'll see you all next year.

Happy tramping.....

See



"So, until next year—Adios, amebas."

## SECRETARY'S CORNER



Giddyay everyone. Last month the O.T.M.C. sent a submission to the DCC Walkways Working Party supporting the need for more walking trails on the Otago Peninsula and to keep all public roads open. A brief submission was also sent to DOC in opposition to a concession for jet-boating on the Dart River. DOC at Invercargill were very appreciative of the information given to them regarding the large numbers of people in the Green Lake/Island Lake region during Labour Weekend and would be very pleased to receive further information from people doing trips in the area to assess the effects of opening the Borland Road. Plenty of postcards have been received from Ian McIlhinney who will be back soon now that he has Ocker status. Finally recent bulletins/newsletters from the Royal Forest & Bird Society and Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust are available from the back of the Clubrooms and make very interesting reading.

Cheers, Eric.

FOR SALE: Lounge Suite - 4 seater couch and two chairs \$150.00  
Ph 454-4492



### CHRISTMAS TREES

Any club member who would like a FREE Christmas tree, should see Richard Pettinger. These trees are growing at Ben Rudd's and are the perfect size.

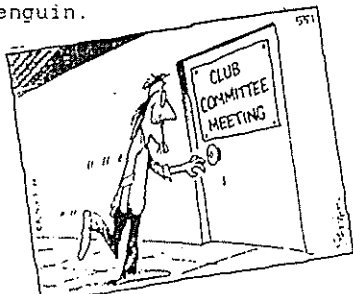
REMEMBRANCES OF THE OUTGOING  
COMMITTEE (1990-91)

When a Club reaches a particular size  
then one of its needs I would surmise  
is a Committee of members, all fair and true,  
who'll decide exactly what the Club should do  
so I'll compose a ditty in honour of those  
who made the greatest sacrifice and chose  
to tackle the issues, both great and small,  
on tramping issues such as affect us all  
like where do we tramp? how much does it cost?  
What should we do if someone gets lost?  
But I digress, so precious is time,  
and the clock any moment is certain to chime  
to announce the next course, so I'd better make haste  
and of the Office Bearers give you a taste  
so take note of my words if your secret dream  
is to be a member of this most honourable team.

Of course, there's a Chairperson, a he or a she,  
who oversees, sagely, all the activity  
and the one retiring and we'll say "Adieu"  
is none other than our tramping mate Stu  
who handles the meetings with great flair and panache  
although one sometimes thinks to the pub he would dash  
if it wasn't for those like Mr R Pettinger  
who drag out the meetings so there's no getting there.

Now Mark Planner has been very much in it  
as all the discussions he would carefully minute  
recording the ebb and flow of debate  
and the passage of motions whose eventual fate  
would depend on the perspicacious nature of those  
who, temporarily, are either allies or foes  
and if in this tussle of minds some ideas have bordered  
as being either brilliant or absurd, they'll be recorded  
in Mark's fair hand the words will be writ  
so others can later decide that it's rubbish.

And then there's the Treasurer, by nature quite tight,  
who ensures that our books are always kept right  
by creative accounting, Teresa ensured  
that any auditor we had would never get bored  
as he grappled with funds reaped from Ben Rudd's  
and refund cheques from cheap trips to the woods  
but our fiscal nest eggs have been well incubated  
for with a strange fetish, Teresa's been fated  
for most indisputably, I think we can pin  
that her life's dream is to be a penguin.



Now if you are novice, or even a gun,  
and you'd like to make your tramping more fun  
you'll come along to the Club the very first time  
to be met at the door by our Ian Sime  
who as Membership Sec a greeting so warm  
he will profer and he'll make you at home  
but there's always a catch, and here is the nub,  
he'll come along one day and ask for your sub  
but give it demurely, come on, play fair  
for its an onerous job look what it's done to his hair!

Now every Thursday night, our members were pained  
unless someone ensured they were entertained  
and Elspeth did this duty most cleverly  
even getting the famous Sir Ed Hillary  
to regale his exploits in countries abroad  
and with all of the talks no-one could get bored  
and now the year's over she can relax with some crates  
of her beloved beverage, the brown liquid called "Speights".

Now, I know that this poem must come to an end  
even though there are more words that I could lend  
to sing the praises of other Officers most dear  
who have toiled most assiduously throughout the year  
to ensure that the Club runs like a well-oiled machine  
and they did it voluntarily, not getting a bean  
so I think that we should now have a toast  
to

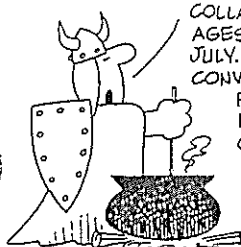
Stu, Rhonda, Mark, Teresa, Ian, Antony, Debbie, Elspeth, Sharon  
Mark, Peter, Mike, Jane and anybody else I've forgotten.



ANYTHING  
IMPORTANT  
HAPPEN  
WHILE I  
WAS  
AWAY?



WELL, LET'S SEE...THE ROMAN EMPIRE  
COLLAPSED...THE DARK  
AGES STARTED IN  
JULY... KING CLOVIS  
CONVERTED THE  
FRANKS...THE  
HUNS SACKED  
OUR VILLAGE...  
AND YOUR  
OLD DOG  
HAD PUPS.



WOW!

PUPS!



© King Features Syndicate, Inc. 1975

DIK 2-16  
BROWNE

SILVER PEAKS PLUS - SUNDAY TRIP 4 NOVEMBER

A fine, still morning saw a good turn out for this trip and Doug's suggestion of going in to Possum Hut was quickly accepted as few had been there before. So much for the Silverpeaks being the club's supposed "home stomping ground".

At 10.00am we set off to head down the ridge from Hightop to Possum Hut taking in the vantage spots on the way. Doug's talk of much track maintenance having been done recently, then diving off into the rough crying "Here's the track", made us wonder a bit. Yeah, sure Doug we believe you. Upon reaching the hut we inspected the camp site, read the plaque, sussed out the hut, determined the Beech species and filled the water cannisters. Then we informed Craig that when Doug says "the track is straight up over there" he means straight up over there!

A warm humid grunt up the hill (reminiscent of the North Island) and a tussock bash took us up to the top of Green Hill for lunch and a very careful game of frisby! We were also able to confirm that, yes, there are tarn lakes in the Silverpeaks.

After press-ganging a couple of innocent passers-by into turning up at club night we conquered the mighty Pulpit Rock where the frisby was thrown again, cautiously.

2.00 pm found us at the Green Hut site when Paul was heard to utter "We're going to get out rather early. You know, we could just about walk back to Dunedin from here!" Well, that was it. The gauntlet had been thrown down, the target of Dunedin quickly changed to the club rooms and three of us, Mark, Paul and myself were off. 5½ hours later, we made it! To start off with Anita was matching our strides pace for pace, but at the turn off for the cars announced she had no intention of being as silly as we were and promptly sat on a sign to wait for the others.

Heading around the side of Hightop we found the correct track, (something Mark apparently failed to do last time) and powered up onto Swampy. A quick bite to eat, another game of (Mark, get off that roof) frisby, then off again. At this point we didn't bother to consult the map so we were rather pleased when the track turned up where we thought it should be and took the Pineapple Track to Booth Road.

A course was plotted to be all down hill for Paul's weary little body, then it was off to George Street and town. Mark's resolve was set by the realisation that there would be no taxis on top of Mt Earnslaw, so we continued to the club rooms to arrive at 7.30 pm. Not a bad day if you're into that sort of thing!

(Hint; if you don't like pain, don't road bash.)

Party: Doug, Paul, Mark, Mary, Laury, Craig, Cathy, Anita, Dean (scribe).

## A Short Adventure in Silverpeaks 10-11 NOV.

It started as an innocent Silverpeaks overnight trip, but I should have known better. Anne & Geraldine arrived earlier than us and set up camp for all, which actually was in a good spot down by Possum Hut flats. We arrived later, taking an alternative route which was not marked on the map. However, that is only a minor technicality and not really worth mentioning.

We sat and talked about nothing in particular, with a few tins and chips in the sun. Trading insults and stories until finally it was decided we should arrange some sort of tea. Some one suggested that we should put everything together and see what happens. At the time it sounded not too bad, so with four cooks, that is what we did. To tell the truth it didn't look or taste all that bad, but when you're tramping and you haven't got a choice anything tastes good. A debate over dumplings or cheesecake was easily won, and cheesecake was it.

Antony showed us how to erect a fly without it falling over, much to Anne's disgust, so we all crawled into our sleeping bags and had a feast of popcorn. (Much recommended for all trips!!).

We awoke to another good day and lay in bed reading or talking until around 9.00am before breakfast was found. Discussion was on the best route out, with the final outcome being the newly marked track. This track was probably the steepest but also the shortest and was agreed upon. The only thing to do was pack up and leave. This proved to take much longer than first anticipated, with one pack having to be re-packed. Anne and Geraldine decided to rest a while longer while we started off up the hill to the car. And I mean up!!!! Surprisingly this did not take all that long and homeward we went.

An enjoyable and easy trip for a social weekend in the Silverpeaks. Must do it all again soon.

Debbie Pettinger, for Antony, Anne Schmack and Geraldine de Souza.

## CATLINS 17-18 NOV

We headed off in private cars and it was a quick trip down to Purakaunui Bay, arriving while it was still light. As we arrived first, we grabbed the tent site closest to the house. Although this was convenient, it also proved to have some disadvantages (read on). An enjoyable evening was spent, chatting by the fire with more people arriving and tents going up.

In the morning, we set off for a walk along the top of the cliffs to the north of the bay. It was a steep climb up, but reasonably short. Once on top, the views are amazing. We wandered along the top for an hour or two, through partially cleared forest with lots of old dead trees which were still standing.

We met up with Bruce's party, several of whom appeared to be asleep. We all went on, eventually reaching Hina Hina Cove. We all had a go at seal and tern watching with Bruce's opera glasses. Then it was time to head back for some lunch and relaxation.

In the afternoon, we headed off in the opposite direction to have a look at Osborne Island and a bit more seal watching. We saw about 10 seals and a huge bull seal.

The Purakaunui Sun Club were out in force (well, 3 members anyway) at various times during the weekend. Even though they informed everyone that it was very exhilarating, their disportations in the surf were very brief.

Saturday night everyone had a social time, either inside by the fire, or standing outside in the rain. Watching people dancing around a fire in the dark conjured up visions of the witches in Macbeth. The music continued unabated until about 1am, with extra free expression being provided courtesy of John and Peter on harmonicas. (Hence the disadvantage of pitching your tent very close to the house.)

The rain cleared by morning and held off for the rest of the day. We packed up and took off to the Purakaunui Falls, which is a very nice short walk. We carried on and met up with Bruce and his party at the Tabakopa River. We took turns and had a paddle up the river in Bruce's canoe. Thanks Bruce.

Next stop was Jack's Blowhole and then onward to Dunedin. Arriving home just in time for greasies for tea.

I'm keen to head back to this very beautiful area for another relaxing weekend.

Sue Levick, for Dave and Sue & Paul Clark.

Many thanks to Peter and Miriam for the use of their crib and for putting up with the masses for the weekend.

### An all day river crossing!

Eight of us made the early morning rise and risk on what the weather was doing to head for the Rock & Pillar range for a daytrip. The view from the hill before Middlemarch gave us a taste of what we were in for - low cloud and mist. We left from the paddocks of Glencreag (ring the owner Neil Grant beforehand as a matter of courtesy) at 9.20 am and followed the fenceline up the ridge towards Leaning Lodge. This part of the daywalk gave me the title of this report. The tussocks were holding so much water that it felt like we were doing a longggggg river crossing. Pity the person in front most of the way (Thanks Ross). After a couple of hours following the fenceline up through the mist and not realising how far we had climbed, we came across the poled route from the road to Leaning Lodge. We followed the poles until we lost them in the mist and did a sharp detour up a steep bank and came across an idyllic scene of mountain totaras, hebes, cushion plants with a small stream and ponds. A very worthwhile sidetrack. After some compass work we were back onto the pole route and did a short climb up to Leaning Lodge.

Lunch was inside the hut out of the heavy drizzle that was now coming down. Leaning Lodge could do with a good clean-up as birds which have been getting inside had left their droppings all over the place. During lunch we decided to carry on with our original intentions of doing a round trip over to the Big Hut but we didn't get off to a good start looking for the road from Leaning Lodge. Trudging through the mist and drizzle it was a relief to come across a recognisable feature, the fenceline! We followed this up and over the top of the range till we came across the 4WD track on top. The vegetation suddenly became sparse, an indication of the wind blown environment. A brisk walk along the top was rather frustrating as you could only see for a few metres around. There was a short hesitation at the point to head off the 4WD track and down to the Big Hut. The mist was that thick that we almost walked into the hut before we saw it.

After a quick squiz to check out the hut for maintenance, a few hits of the table tennis and a moro later we headed down the track dreading the thought of going through thutussock again. But alas the farmer had kindly burnt out the tussock for us and it was a leisurely stroll over the remaining stubble down to the cars about 4.40pm. A great round trip, but better to do it in fine weather. Thanks to Ross, Pam, Anita, Ruth, Glenda, Tammy and Julie for joining me.

Eric Lord.

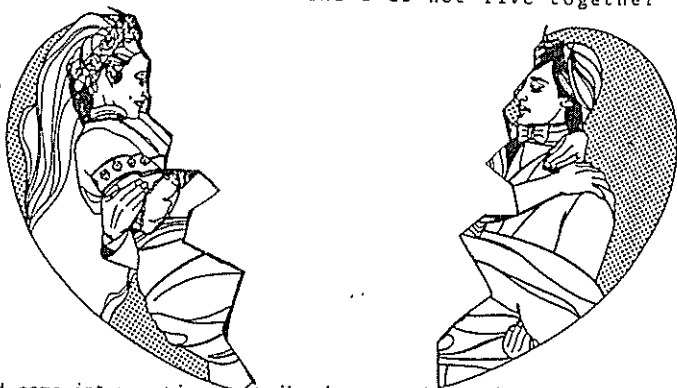
# YOUR VIEWS

Dear Madam,

Contrary to the impression given by the photograph in the recent edition of "Outdoors", Michelle Williams and I do not live together as man and wife.

Yours unbigamously,

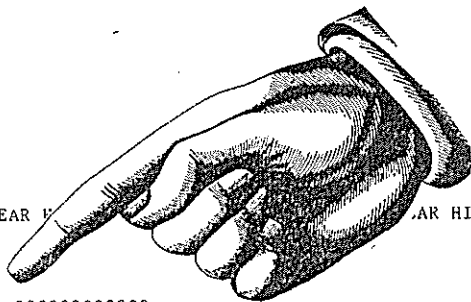
David Peacock.



Dear Sue

Well you certainly had some interesting contributions on the environmental politics last month. John Cox reminded us why it is so important for us to stick up for those rights that we have and to ensure that we don't lose them. Paul seemed to be saying that because the approach of some people to these issues was a bit confrontational we should steer clear of them. Richard Pettinger indicated a need for a balanced approach, and I believe he's on the right track. Those members who think that some in the club are promoting stances that appear to be aggressive, confrontational or just paranoid have their opportunity to be heard. ORG meetings are open to all members, and I'm sure all involved would welcome a broader base of people to be involved in this vital work.

David Barnes



GEAR HIRE\*\*\*GEAR HIRE\*\*\*GEAR HIRE\*\*\*GEAR HIRE

GEAR HIRE

WANTED:

IDEAS

What do members want held in gear hire??????????????

Suggestions for consideration so far have been - a dehydrator & cookers.

Any ideas, let me know.

WANTED:

DONATIONS - any old useable gear will be gladly accepted for hire

WANTED:

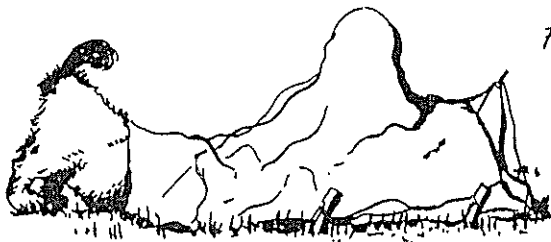
GEAR ON LOAN - Do you have any gear you would be willing to loan out occasionally????

Hire charge could be donated to Club funds.

Contact Sharon St Clair-Newman with your suggestions.

# OTMC Hot Gossip

*How not to  
pitch a fly*



Two female trampers were more than impressed with the fly that they had managed to erect. The catch?!!! .... It fell to the only gust of wind. Better luck next time, A & G

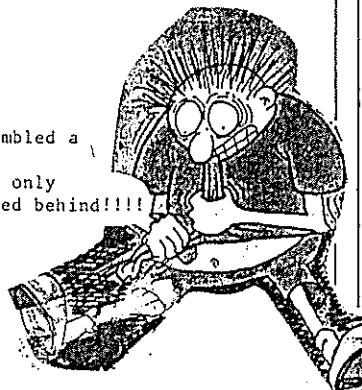
One well known male tramper showed just how long it really was since his last trip away. He had finally finished packing up ready to leave, but alas he was missing one boot. That elusive boot at last showed itself..... you guessed it..... at the bottom of his pack.

The Problem: a bit of chafing around the bottom.

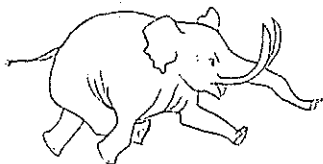
The Solution: Savlon, applied generously.

The Snags: a dark hut and a tube of toothpaste that resembled a tube of Savlon.

The Result: a "ring of confidence" for Michael Fay - the only tramper with an Extra Spearmint Flouride added behind!!!! (Ooooh, it does get in!).



Bruce<sup>M.</sup> was unable to impress everyone by wading out to Osborne Island on the Catlins weekend, as he had forgotten to pack his oscillating nostril.



Michelle Williams says Hi and  
Merry Christmas to all of the OTMC.

please note: Addition to "Six on Mt Maitland" by Michelle Williams in Outdoors. Missing little red bowl was later recovered on McKinnon Pass, Milford Track. How it got there from Ohau is still a mystery.

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

## SOCIAL PROGRAMME

### SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The programme for the next few weeks....

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 De Carle 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.

Jan 24 I'm still working on these days and am hopeful of the Mountain Bike  
Jan 31 Club giving us a talk.....Will let you know soon.

Feb 7 **Northern Olivines** - by Dave Levick

Feb 14 **The Head of the Dart from various approaches** - a Ken Mason collection, to include some past and present photography.

Feb 21 **Tramping in the Southern Region of N.Z.** - popular tramping areas in the lower South Island including: Mt Cook, Ohau, Matukituki, Routeburn and Kepler.

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

Kind regards Julie

MERRY CHRISTMAS &

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.'



"There is more to life than increasing its speed."  
Mahatma Gandhi