

**Newsletter of the Otago Tramping
and Mountaineering Club (Inc.)
P.O. Box 1120, Dunedin.**



The OTMC meets socially at 3 Young Street
every Thursday—doors open at 7.30pm,
programme begins at 8.00pm.

The Editor Speaks

You will find this Bulletin a little larger than normal as it covers December and January. The next Bulletin will be the February edition. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has put pen to paper to write a trip report of their exploits in the mountains. Your efforts are very much appreciated! I do have a number of trip reports waiting to be printed in the Bulletin and I apologise if you have written one recently and not seen it in here yet—I assure you it will be printed. I currently have a backlog of trip reports from the previous editor and am working on getting the older reports printed first. This does not mean you don't have to write a trip report—in fact the opposite is true, the more I get the happier I am. To many trip reports is a good problem to have and means I can occasionally give you a slightly larger edition, like this one.

Debs

Committee Members 2010

President	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
Vice President	Richard Forbes	453 1327
Secretary	Peter Stevenson	454 4148
Treasurer	Ann Burton	476 2360
Chief Guide/Transport	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
Membership Secretary	Richard Forbes	453 1327
Bulletin Editor	Debbie Pettinger	473 7924
Gear Hire/Clubrooms	Gene Dyett	455 7465
Daytrip Convenor	Wayne Hodgkinson	473 0950
Website/Bushcraft Director	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
Social Convenor	Tony Timperley	473 7257
Social Convener/Gear Hire	Ralph Harvey	453 4330
Conservation/Advocacy	David Barnes	454 4492
SAR Committee Liaison	Ross Hunt	477 3309
SAR Contact	Teresa Blondell	477 4987

Contributions (limit of 1000 words) are welcome for the February Bulletin, deadline is 14/1/11, publication 28/1/11. You can submit material by email to debsnz@ihug.co.nz

It is hard to believe that 2010 is quickly drawing to an end – it seems not that long ago we were slogging up the Beansburn on the first day of the Five Pass trip in January. That trip was certainly an impressive way to start the year, given the Five Pass trip offers a challenging trip through an amazing remote area. Looking back over the year it is obvious we have been somewhat thwarted by the weather a number of times – a sign that we are either getting older, or put more faith in the weather forecasts! Seriously, though, it has now become prudent for tramping and outdoor clubs to take heed of the weather and plan trips accordingly. If we had actually gone on some of the cancelled trips this year we would have been in trouble – the Mt. Titiroa trip in March is one that easily comes to mind – it is likely we would have spent the better part of a week stuck in the Borland if we had headed away. Times have changed and we now do need to be careful in what we do and how we do it. Cancelling a trip is a tough decision for the leader, but is always made solely in the interests of safety for all our members. We seem to have particular bad luck with the Routeburn, for as I write this the track is closed and we are due to hold our ‘Routeburn In A Day’ trip there this weekend. Luckily, the weather appears okay (well, maybe damp) and we have an alternate option. The OTMC will not tramp on an officially closed track.

Looking forward to 2011, we have another full summer programme of tramping trips planned. February and March in particular will be a busy time for the club with many different trips being offered, catering for all trampers (and climbers). The committee are hoping the Open Day in mid-February stimulates interest in the Bushcraft Skills Course in March. This, in turn, is being followed up by an ‘advanced bushcraft’ trip, where participants will plan and carry out a trip that has primarily no tracks or huts and involves a neat trip over a significant pass from one valley to another. This will be a great opportunity to practise map reading, navigation, bush-bashing, plus all the other normal tramping skills, such as camping and river crossings. Look out for more information on this activities in the next Bulletin, due near the end of January 2011.

On behalf of the committee I would like to wish all members and supporters of the OTMC a restful festive season, hopefully with an opportunity to enjoy our magnificent outdoors.

Antony Pettinger
President

Membership

Current membership stands at 179.

New members joined this last month

Tomas Sobek

Members resigned this last month

21 members have not contacted me about their membership status so I will try to contact them again by phone or e mail otherwise their membership will lapse (3 reminders have already been posted). If you have not heard from me please get in touch to update your membership.

Richard Forbes

Membership Secretary

OTMC CLIMBING TRIPS

Several people have indicated they may be keen to come on some of the clubs climbing trips, but they do not have the adequate snow skills. Andy and Ralph originally said if you do not have the skills required, you would have to wait till the next snow skills course in July or August next year.

They are considering running a course, consisting of two nights in the clubrooms and a weekend on an easy grade peak, where you can practice your snow skills and hopefully climb a peak. Climbing a peak will be subject to weather conditions, which so far this season has been very unpredictable.

If interested, ring or email

Andy ph. 476 0404 or email andycunningham@xtra.co.nz

or Ralph ph. 473 4330 or email ralphh@ihug.co.nz

Funding Thank you

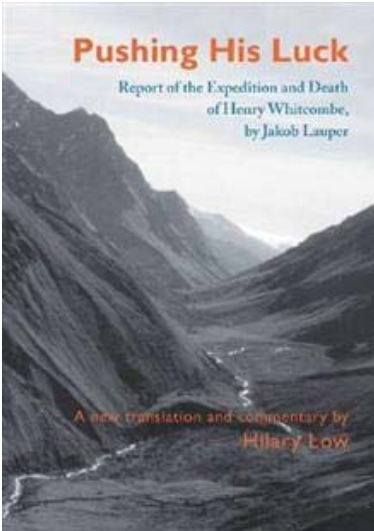
In last months Bulletin, Andy Cunningham introduced the idea of fundraising to help with the purchase of a number of safety and instructional equipment for the club to use in training and gear hire. Andy volunteered to get the ball rolling and among a number of fundraising initiatives has applied for funding from grants. A huge thank you must go to Andy for this, and what is even better is that his efforts have meant that OTMC has received funding from several trusts. A wonderful effort –thank you Andy!!

This does not mean we can rest because the club now has to fund raise it's contribution so watch this space for how you can help and become involved.

Book Review

Pushing His Luck – Report of the Expedition and Death of Henry Whitcombe

by Jakob Lauper



Whitcombe was a Canterbury engineer charged with finding the Holy Grail of roading – a useable route from Canterbury to the West Coast – and Lauper was a Swiss miner (amongst other things) employed to assist him. As was often the case in those days, the person most commonly associated with a new route wasn't the first to go there (think Haast Pass). As well as some use by Maori, the pass had received a visit from runholder and author Samuel Butler and a companion. In April 1863, in sight of the pass that now bears his name, Whitcombe bid his other two companions return to Christchurch. In contradiction to his instructions (and with shades of Hillary and the South Pole nearly a century later), he decided that turning back from the pass wasn't an option and that he and Lauper would push on to the Coast before returning

over the established but longer route over Hurunui Saddle (now Harper Pass). Their descent was harrowing. As anyone who has travelled in Westland gorges will attest, it's not easy country, even with modern gear, marked routes and good maps. Lucky to survive and virtually out of food, they made their way up the coast to the Taramakau, where Whitcombe drowned in a desperate crossing.

Lauper subsequently wrote a report in his native German for their employers. This was translated and published in the Canterbury Gazette. In 1960, that ubiquitous man of mountain letters, John Pascoe, edited the English text and published it with commentary. However, some parts of the routes described perplexed Pascoe, who knew that part of the country very well. It continued to baffle knowledgeable readers until one, Deryck Morse, asked his niece, German scholar Hilary Low, to look at the original German text. Major errors in the translation were found, so Low set about retranslating the whole manuscript. Published here with introductory and epilogue chapters, it makes a compelling tale. Both Lauper and Low write well, and Low has done a tremendous job of researching the background to the expedition. Comprehensive footnotes to Lauper's text add depth to the tale.

The book was published with financial assistance from (amongst others) the FMC Mountain and Forest Trust. As a trustee, I am quite proud to be peripherally associated with such a good book.

David Barnes

Trip Reports

Ben There, Done That 11/12 September 2010

On the evening of the ominous sounding date of Friday 10-9-10 (I'm sure that must have some significance) twelve intrepid explorers climbed into the van to be transported to majestic McKenzie country. The weather was good but the forecast was not. The relatively uneventful road trip was a good chance to meet new friends and catch up with those mates you haven't seen for a while. It's amazing the range of topics discussed, including such things as finance and woman's underwear. Those blokes who admitted wearing woman's underwear shall remain nameless. The trip was punctuated by a stop in Oamaru for dinner and numerous cries of “are we there yet? ” Upon arrival at the Top 10 holiday park we prepaid the fee and after some confusion as to the numbering system located our cabins, unpacked and enjoyed a reasonably comfortable nights sleep.

Waking just before the alarm rang (this only happens if the alarm has been set) it was a quick breakfast and a short wait while the two brave souls who camped by the river found their way to our “camp”. Then back into the van and on the road for the short drive to a car park at the base of Ben Dhu aka Ben Dhu base-camp. I'm not very fit but seemed to be coping ok ...so far ...so good. After 30 minutes or so enjoying the view of hills to the left and mountains to the right, some snow covered and some not, it suddenly dawned on me that from now on it would be all uphill...literally.



But not to worry, I was primed. I was mentally on top of my game, I had power to burn (two cups of coffee this morning) and little more than food, drink and parka in my pack. Just enough to balance the winter weight gain hidden lower and to the front. Right then lets go ! Luckily the hardest part was climbing the near vertical bank from the road to the

well hidden DOC sign announcing the start of the walk. That's not to say the rest of the walk was a doodle, more of a near continuous medium gradient up a scenic valley and onto the summit ridge. We chose the northwest route as the climb was less demanding than the direct route from the road. About half-way up a few people chose a 15 minute side trip to view a little tarn in the bottom of an adjacent valley. Rumours and recollections were heard of some crazy, Antony someone, who descended the scree slope to that tarn at several hundred metres per minute, arriving so long before fellow trampers that he had the tent pitched and dinner underway.

I digress, lunch was had at the top of the valley before the summit push was attempted. Taxing, but not more than any of our group could handle. I just wish I'd eaten more chocolate for lunch. A short walk along the snow covered flat top brought us to fantastic views of the expansive McKenzie country including Lakes Tekapo, Pukaki and Benmore. Mt Cook Aoraki peeked out through the gathering clouds for the first few to arrive. The weather remained fine where we were. The descent was steep and a couple of rest stops were had to let knees and ankles recover. The time down was about a third of the time up. After a short rehydrate it was back into the van for the drive back to civilization. Antony managed to hit only one rock while exiting the car park. An improvement of 50% over the two he found on the way in. The folk in the van rushed the showers when we got back to camp while the river bank rebels had a cold water (water?) wash-up in the river. (dairy district main drain !) A couple of hours later we all gathered at the pub for tea and a brew. I love this "roughing it" lifestyle. Shortly thereafter 14 tired bodies hit the hay in preparation for tomorrow's effort.

Day two started in much the same way but a slight hangover and the van now full to the roof with all our gear. The short drive around Lake Ohau brought us to a car park at the western base of Ben Ohau. Today's walk would follow a 4WD track most of the way up the hill. Once again a steady climb with a couple of small flat bits to give us a rest. The walk was easier and shorter



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than Ben Dhu yesterday. The last 200m or so was up a slightly steeper rocky ridge. After taking in the fantastic panoramic views of Tekapo and Twizel to the east, Lake Ohau at our feet and the mouth of the Hopkins and Dobson valleys to the north west we had lunch and set off back down. The walk down was



an easier affair too, using the 4WD track again. A quick stop at Omarama for ice cream and fuel and then on to Dunedin. The trip back was a quieter event with several people “resting their eyes”. At least no one snored in the van. Much texting to loved ones was undertaken announcing our safe return from “the zone”. Ian even managed to text himself...analyse that if you will. Arriving home I was happily tired but to my amazement felt no stiffness in the following days. Maybe it was just a lack of chocolate after all.

p.s. note to self...take more chocolate next time.

Sam Patrick for Brent, Ian, Debbie, Antony, Ann, Richard, Becky, Gene, Wendy-Anne, Andrew, Sarah, Ross, Michael and Darryl.

Views of Strath Taieri Valley, Matare

30 May 2010

After a week of rain this trip, on the first non-rain day, should have attracted more than the four who turned up to shake off their cabin fever. Did the rest of you believe that a further 33 days and nights of the same were in the offing?

An interesting trip out to the Barewood plateau crossing the Taieri-cum-Zambezi river at Outram and then, from above, seeing the Plain now offering a range of boating possibilities.

We arrived at Lucy’s family’s place, Matarae lying some 10k beyond Clarks Junction, and with her mother, Juliet, set off across the soaking paddocks to explore the farm. The land is excellent walking country, a high plateau cut by deep ravines broken up and given interest by the tors which are especially large here. Even in the

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general gloom the views were extensive and we could see all the Middlemarch valley, now populated by little lakes, and the Salt Lake shining in the sun. Juliet said she'd never seen it so big and we wondered if it was still salty. Water became the theme of the trip with the Jones women frequently remarking that they'd never seen a stream *there* before. It also rather cut short the walk as the Sutton Stream in spate made further northward progress impossible. This and the failure of the forecast sun to arrive had us back at the homestead after about 4 hours. The rest of Lucy's family were there and we enjoyed tea and cake and a chat before heading home.

There is potential for great walking here in future with an obvious possibility being a round trip to the Salt Lake or one way with a car shuffle.

Many thanks to Lucy and Juliet Jones and family.

Bronwen Strang, Lucy Jones, Ralph Harvey, Rob Seeley.

Routeburn Peaks

1-4 October 2010

Five of us had planned a trip to the Routeburn area with the aim of climbing Mt Xenicus and Ocean Peak, which both sit above Harris Saddle. The walk-in to the Falls hut was fine for the first five minutes, after which rain, and then snow, started to make things look interesting!

On Saturday morning we headed up towards Harris Saddle; about 100 metres out of the hut the first deep snow was encountered, and after making about 1.5kms in three hours (roughly two-thirds of the way to the Saddle), and having crossed some big avalanche tracks already, we headed back to the hut for lunch and a brew. In the afternoon we took advantage of the tracks made in the morning to head up to the attractive tarn area above the Falls hut, where there are some great views of the area.

With no prospect of getting beyond our high point, we decided to head out on Sunday, so walked back to the car park and then headed to the Greenstone & Caples track end, via an excellent coffee at Kinloch Lodge. That afternoon we walked to the Mid-Caples Hut and spent a great evening with four other people, before walking out on the Monday morning and heading back to Dunedin (all except Becky who – lucky thing – spent the rest of the week at Kinloch!



Despite the late-season snow meaning we failed to climb our objectives, all agreed we'd had a great time, and given the snow and avalanche conditions, it had also been very instructive!

Sarah Chisnall, Becky Cameron, Wayne Hodgkinson, Ralph Harvey, Andy Cunningham

Gabriels Gully

The last Sunday in September saw 8 of us travel up to Lawrence for an enjoyable stroll – the rating of 'easy' was indeed correct!

We parked in the proper car park at Gabriels Gully, but then left the tourist route. There are a good few tracks in the area that leave the beaten tracks but we used only one of them at the very start of the day: straight up! Luckily the track was not too overgrown and even the bit of 'bush-bashing' which I thought would be needed was only a 3 metre push through very light undergrowth! We'd got to the top of the hill at an old dam (no water these days) and then proceeded around the back of the Gully itself. Lots of history (and lots of notice boards to tell us about the trials that the gold-miners went through), masses of wild daffodils and, even prettier, wild primroses of both the yellow and purple varieties. The tracks were good and we took our time checking out old mines, the explosives store, bits of machinery etc, all the while coming across patches of spring flowers.

By 11.30 we were back at the cars, so we had an early lunch using one of several picnic tables there (but no toilets – plenty of brambles and mat-agouri for that sort of thing!).

As we set out for Wetherstones it began to drizzle, but as soon as we'd put on our coats it stopped again! And the weather was like that for the rest of the day – mostly sunshine with the occasional short showers. The track over the hill was good – even a bridge over a stream so we didn't get wet feet – and it took less than an hour to get to the Old Brewery at Wetherstones. No beer there nowadays but they did leave a legacy of a million billion daffodils. We donated a gold coin and went for a wander: the Lawrence people have cleared some new tracks and we had a preview of the various varieties of narcissi as





we tracked round via a waterfall to the main daffodil paddock. Yes, it's true – we did see a host of golden daffodils and were treated to a reading of Wordsworth's poem at the very top. Bit cold though, so back down to the brewery, then up and over the hill back to the cars. The track seemed much shorter going back!

So, many thanks to my companions for making the day so enjoyable: Hilda

Firth, Jude Stevenson, Jill McAliece, Michael Firmin, Janet Barclay, James and Russell.

Unexplored Silverpeaks

3 October 2010

Unlike two weeks earlier when only two people turned up for the trip I was intending to take to Mt Charles, (they were Richard and me, who spent a fine day gardening instead), on this trip there was a big mob raring to go. To go somewhere. Somewhere mad. And nobody cared where. Stefan and some others were a bit perturbed to hear that there was an even chance that, had we ventured to David's suggested destination, we might not come home till Monday lunchtime. Something was said about imminent exams and a Very Important dinner party (which was actually David himself not wanting a late return!). And so, a less ambitious trip was called for.

We squashed ourselves into the minimum amount of cars that would take 11 people up to the hills and left the clubrooms at a leisurely 10 past 9, (even though Richard and I were actually there at the clubrooms well before 9), by minutes even.

The sun was shining, but it wasn't a hot day. Perfect! At least it wasn't snowing, like on last year's Unexplored Silverpeaks.

We parked up at the first car park on Semple Road and headed off up the track to 'Sleepy Hollow', which is a small swampy terrace on the South Face of Hightop, situated part way down a stream somewhere in that direction. The map is in Richard's head, and he always seems to know where he is going, so that's fine.

The track proceeded through some small wetty wallows, twiggy trees and scrabbly scrub, for a while, plunging into the Silverstream catchment. I felt like one of the dogs on Country Calendar going through the obstacle course.

We all managed to get through without having our eyes poked out. But the bush lawyer was in abundance, not only there either. It was in my hair and unmentionable places on my body, and probably everybody else's too. There was evidence of pigs along the way too. There were patches of gorse.

We followed the stream for a long way keeping to the true middle most of the way. The rocks were slippery slime and slowed us down a bit. We found a dry spot to sit in and eat our lunch at the appropriate time, while Robert wrung himself out to dry as he had been for a bit of a swim, it being such a nice day. Richard remarked about the nice collection of new-looking tramping gear he had almost stepped on. Seems that a pesky branch had neatly unzipped Stefan's pack, and gravity did the rest. That's nature for you. Stef was fortunate that the deposit wasn't following Robert into the drink.

Immediately after eating, we were at the point where there is a proper track leading up the spur to the right that we imagined could be 50% of Greengauge Track (but wasn't). We headed off thataway. There was a handy knotted rope to pull ourselves up the spur with, attached to a sturdy tree and tested by all of us. It was probably 20 metres long and extremely useful, especially for the first pull out of the stream

The spur went on and on and on and on, like they do and when we reached the T junction with the track that leads to Green Hut site we realised we were somewhere else.

So, we went to Green Hut site, sat int' sun, sagged and sizzled and then sodded off back to the cars. On the way back we followed the track that goes around the west and north of Hightop, to Semple Road, a bit that at least two of us, including me, had never explored before.

One carload, which didn't need to get back for exam swotting, checked out the Orokonui Sanctuary visitors' centre, leaving them some muddy deposits from someone's boots. Let's hope the soil, from the unexplored parts of the Silverpeaks, had some handy native species in it.

Thanks to Richard for leading yet another one of the Club's maddest annual trips.

Tracy Pettinger for Alan Williamson, Ian Woodford, David J Barnes, Robert Thompson, Paul Cunliffe, Darryl Woods, Abby Lute, Adam Girardin, Stefan Fairweather and Richard Pettinger

Trip list

CHIEF GUIDE COMMENT

11/12 December

Pigeon Island [Social Trip]

Debbie Pettinger ph. 473 7924

The OTMC annual social trip this year is headed to Pigeon Island. Pigeon Island is in the middle of Lake Wakatipu and has a high point of 461m. This is a lovely place only able to be accessed by boat and this is a perfect opportunity for OTMC members and their families to get away for a weekend before the mad rush of Christmas arrives. There is a large open place to camp with a hut also available. The opportunity is there for those wanting to do a short walk to the highest point and then follow a track around the entire island, finding magical bays along the way to stop and explore. We will travel to the boat launch in private cars, leaving Saturday morning. Stay on the island over night and return on Sunday. This trip is limited to OTMC members and their family. Bring something for a BBQ tea on the island. There is a cost for the boat ride, to be advised.

Trip list closes 2 December.

22/23 January 2011

Remarkables Area [A]

Gene Dyett ph. 455 7465

The Remarkables are well named, being the impressive range of mountains rising to over 2000m on the eastern side of the lower Lake Wakatipu. This trip provides the opportunity to visit an area many go to in winter – with summer conditions. Visit Lake Alta at 1800m and explore around the head of Wye Creek. If there are sufficient numbers a cross-over trip via Wye Creek may be available. The trip indicated climbing options – again this may be possible if there is enough interest. Sign the list, or talk to Gene.

This trip will close on the first meeting of 2011 (13 January)

5/6 February
Rockburn Valley [All]
Tony Timperley ph. 473 7257

The Rockburn is a jewel amongst the valleys at the head of Lake Wakatipu. There are two options to access the valley – one is via the Routeburn Track, via Sugarloaf Pass (take the time to climb a little bit higher from the pass for more impressive views), and via Lake Sylvan. In February, a moderate party should be able to reach Theatre Flat to camp. With the daylight at this time there will be time to explore the area known as the Rock Garden at the head of the flat. Other options include camping on a lower flat, and returning back to the road-end via Lake Sylvan – creating a semi-round trip.

Trip list closes 27 January

5-7 February
North Routeburn/Rockburn [M/F]
Antony Pettinger ph. 473 7924

This trip is one of the classic trips in the Routeburn area, including the alpine traverse passing Lake Nerine (at 1500m). This trip will be heading up the North Routeburn, and returning via Sugarloaf Pass, giving us a three pass trip. As we are doing this trip in three days you need to plan on camping just below North Col in the Routeburn on the first night, and traversing the alpine section past Lake Nerine on the second day and camping in the vicinity of Theatre Flat on your second night. The last day is the trip down the Rockburn and over Sugarloaf Pass. As I said, the trip is a classic, but it does involve untracked and sometimes steep country so bushcraft/tramping experience is required. There are no huts on this trip, but there are a couple of reasonable bivvy rocks. Waitangi Day is on Sunday in 2011, so you will need to take Monday off work etc.

Talk to Antony if you have any questions regarding the trip – list closes 27 January.

DAYTRIPS

5 December

Routes from Bethunes Gully [E]

Fieke Neuman ph. 473 7535

We will leave our transport at the car park of Bethunes Gully, at the end of Norwood Street in North East Valley. Heading up the Bethunes Gully track, we branch off to the left, about a third of the way up. This side track will bring us to Campbells Road at the top of Pine Hill. We then follow Campbells Road down for a few blocks until reaching Abbeyhill Road where we head down hill across country to meet up with Watts Road in North East Valley. We may take the opportunity to explore the Palmers Quarry gardens before heading to Chingford Park (more side-trips and a great children's playground). A little bit more road walking up Norwood Street will get us back to Bethunes Gully. A total walking time of about 4 hours depending on side trips. Great fun on the edges of the city.

Trip Cost \$3

12 December

Peninsula Tracks [E]

Gavin MacArthur ph. 455 0027

Look forward to a pleasant day on the peninsula taking in some of the fine vistas that this area has to offer. We will leave the clubrooms at 9.00 am and proceed to the Lovers Leap/Chasm car park. From there we will do a circumference of Sandy Mount. We then head further up the peninsula and go cross country to the top of Coyne Cliff. Following Coyne Cliff we will head to the Taiaroa Head gun emplacements for an explore through the tunnels, so bring a torch.

Trip Cost \$5

19 December

Secret Tracks of Swampy [M]

Antony Hamel 453 5240

Things that no guide book writer would mention Start at Leith Saddle . I

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have never explored this but it is the site of a major engineering disaster in 1904. Comparatively large amounts of money were spent to achieve nothing. The pipeline was abandoned. Were reputations ruined? Did people nearly resign? Was it all hushed up? Are we now lost? All these questions may be answered.

Trip Cost \$3.

16 January 2011
Lee Stream-Nigel's Stream [M]
Gordon Tocher 472 7440

We assemble at the clubrooms at 9am, to greet the new year with a nice bit of tramping to burn off the Christmas pudding.

Beginning from the Lee Stream bridge on George King Memorial Drive we ascend a rough bush track up the side of a small creek, it is steep in places. The route continues over rolling farmland to our lunch venue on the summit of Mt Hyde (444m). Given the thick nature of some of the bush eye protection is recommended, bring whatever water you wish to drink on the trip. The view from Mount Hyde should be extensive as it is highest in the locality.

Approximate time 5 hours including driving

Trip cost \$10.

23 January
Rustlers Ridge/Burns Track [M]
Ran Turner ph. 473 8652

We leave the cars at the top of the motorway and walk down to the beginning of the pipeline track. This is the start of a figure eight trail where we make our way up Rustlers Ridge to the Swampy Summit then north to the beginning of the Burns Track. Here there are great views of the Silverpeaks and Blueskin Bay . We descend to Burns Creek then through a broad leaved forest to the Pipeline Track.

Trip Cost \$4

Thursday Night Programme

2 December

Club BBQ at Woodhaugh Gardens. We will use a DCC barbeque, bring your own food and drink. Family and friends welcome, kick off at 6 pm.

9 December

Glen Knol talks about another of his cycling adventures in Tibet this time. His talk of cycling in Bolivia was great and Tibet should interesting as well.

16 December

This is a joint meeting with the Alpine Club to be held at our club rooms. Jeremy Frimer is the old climbing partner of Jay Piggott, when Jay was in Canada. Jay is an ex-member of our club, he is still a member of the Alpine Club. Jeremy's talk is about his 13 years of climbing new ice and rock routes in Canada & Alaska, in Peru's Cordillera Blanca and Huayhaush. He completed a new route on the south face of Siula Grande (Joe Simpson's 'oops he's cut the rope' mountain). He also has climbed new routes in the Indian & Pakistan Himalaya. Jeremy's presentation tells of some of these climbs, and gives character portraits of some of his climbing partners.

13 January

The first club night for 2011 is an informal meeting. Tell people what you have been up to over the Christmas break, sign up for the Remarkables Area trip, or for the Rockburn (2 day) North Routeburn/Lake Nerine/Rockburn (3 day) trips.

20 January

BYO - Show us photos of what you have been up to over the Christmas/New year break.

27 February

To be advised

Any ideas, and contact names in particular, are welcome for the Thursday evening activities. If you can help please contact Tony Timperley (phone 473 7257, email tonytimps@xtra.co.nz) or Ralph Harvey (phone 453 4330, email ralphh@ihug.co.nz)

Visit us on the Internet at: www.otmc.co.nz