

# OTMC BULLETIN



Newsletter of the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc

# 786 October 2017



*"Spring" Routeburn : Rodger Clarkson*

## **October Trips & Events**

Powder Hill	Silver Peaks (Jubilee)	Silver Peaks (Unexplored)
Tunnels Track to Possum Hut	Ben Rudd's Work Party	
Labour Weekend : Alps to Ocean Cycle Trail -and- Lake Clearwater		
Mihiwaka, Mt Kettle, Mt Cutten	Green, Rocky and Yellow Ridges	

**Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club**, PO Box 1120, Dunedin

[www.otmc.co.nz](http://www.otmc.co.nz) [facebook.com/groups/otmcnz](https://facebook.com/groups/otmcnz) [otmc@ihug.co.nz](mailto:otmc@ihug.co.nz)

Thursday meeting at 3 Young St, South Dunedin

Doors open 7:30 for 8pm start, all welcome

# OTMC Ben Rudd's Property - Where to Now?

A recent club night featured our own Ben Rudd's property, where we outlined the history of the property and the club's involvement with the wider Flagstaff area. As explained at the meeting, the current twenty-year term of the Ben Rudd's Management Trust (BRMT) comes to an end on August 1, 2018. The OTMC members, as owners of the property, will have to decide over the coming months what the next step in the management of the property should be.

Ben Rudd lived on the property from 1921 to 1930. Since the club acquired the property in 1946 there have been various different schemes undertaken, ranging from forestry to revegetation, as views and policies changed within the club. The importance of the property was obvious in 1946, as this was about the only piece of land not already spoken for by the Dunedin City Corporation, and acquisition was seen as a strategic move by the club.

The 45ha Ben Rudd's property is surrounded by DCC Water Reserve and the Flagstaff Scenic Reserve. In the early 2000's, the OTMC and BRMT arranged for a [QEII Open Space Covenant](#) to protect and maintain the open space values of the land, amongst other objectives.

From the 1950's, the club planted thousands of exotic trees as a form of future revenue for the club. This policy ceased in the early 1970's, and the remaining merchantable trees that managed to escape a large fire in 1976 were removed in 1989. Restoration and revegetation of the property commenced straight away, and has continued to the present day. The revenue from the trees has been set aside to restore the property, and is entrusted with the BRMT as per the management agreement (the Ben Rudd's Fund has been retained more or less intact, with additional funds successfully sourced by the Trust).

Access to the property is restricted mainly to the open section above the firebreak, the firebreak itself, the track from the former skid site to the lower boundary below the rhododendron dell, and the Ben Rudd's Shelter site.

Now, with the end of the current management agreement occurring in 2018, the OTMC need to decide what to do from here. The need to run workparty's at the property have been a constant task since the club took over the property – be it planting and pruning the plantation trees or the endless removal of unwanted species, mainly gorse and broom. In 2016 there were 11 workparty's held – after a good turnout for the first one, numbers dwindled to just one or two at times. While this work achieved good results, the amount of work to be done appears daunting. It has always been accepted that this is a long-term project – but as we approach 30 years since the trees were felled are we any closer? Will we still be undertaking gorse and broom clearing in another 30 years' time, and who will be doing it? Certainly, for the foreseeable future, multiple workparty's are required every year.

Any decision the OTMC makes needs to take into account the commitment being put on current and future members. In the past, the Ben Rudd's property was a special place for a generation or two of club members and retention was the correct path to take – I suggest that this may no longer be the case, and that many recent members have no attachment to the property. Therefore, is it fair to expect them to work on the property for many years to come?

It is inevitable that a decision to retain the property will lead to ongoing work by a very small percentage of club members. The property will always exist – we, as members, need to decide what role the club should have with the Ben Rudd's property.

The committee have invited the BRMT to submit a response to the above in the next Bulletin, and seek feedback from members – this could be by a letter to the Bulletin editor, or by talking to a committee member. You can also email the club at

[otmc@otmc.co.nz](mailto:otmc@otmc.co.nz)

Antony Pettinger  
Vice President

# OTMC Bank Account

The OTMC bank account with ASB is ... **12-3150-0311684-00**

Please include your name and the reason for the payment when using internet banking (which is the preferred option). Non-members must pay for trips when signing the trip list, members should pay before departure.

Vehicle suppliers/drivers will normally not pay the trip fee and will be reimbursed fuel costs later (check with the trip leader or Treasurer Rodger if in doubt).

## Gear Hire

OTMC has a large amount of gear available for members to hire. Hire charge \$5 for up to a week, then \$5 per week. See or phone Joe Bretherton 473 8784

- Ice Axes
- Crampons
- Cookers & Billies
- Packs
- Tents/Flys
- Personal Locator Beacons
- Climbing Helmets
- Avalanche Probes and Transceivers

## Your Committee

President : Richard Forbes	453 1327	forbespotter@hotmail.com
Vice President : Antony Pettinger (and Website, Bushcraft, Centenary)	473 7924	antony.pettinger@gmail.com
Secretary : Leonie Loeber	477 4895	loeber@xtra.co.nz
Treasurer : Rodger Clarkson	473 6053	rodger.clarkson@xtra.co.nz
Chief Guide : Wayne Hodgkinson	473 0950	wphodgkinson@xtra.co.nz
Membership Secretary : Debbie Pettinger	473 7924	debspettinger@gmail.com
Bulletin Editor/Publisher : Barry Walker	477 5018	bmw@xtra.co.nz
Daytrip Convener : Sharen Rutherford	027 229 1961	sharen.rutherford@gmail.com
Club Meeting Organisers : Gail Mitchell and Sharon Bretherton	0274 780 775	gailraem@gmail.com
	473 8784	jsbretherton@gmail.com
and Debbie Pettinger	473 7924	debspettinger@gmail.com
Clubrooms Maintenance : Sharon Bretherton	473 8784	jsbretherton@gmail.com
Clubrooms Hire : Barry Walker & Helen Jones	477 5018	bmw@xtra.co.nz
Gear Hire : Joe Bretherton	473 8784	jsbretherton@gmail.com
Librarian : Helen Jones	477 5018	hlnmaryjo@hotmail.com
and Gail Mitchell	0274 780 775	gailraem@gmail.com
Conservation; Advocacy; and Recreation : Chris Pearson	455 4673	cpearson86@aol.com
Ben Rudd Trust and Leaning Lodge Trust contact : Alan Thomson	455 7878	thomson@ihug.co.nz

## Membership Debbie Pettinger, Membership Secretary

We welcome Michael Stott, Sue Stephenson, Chris Linsell, Simon Lin and Mandie Lungley as new members this month.

We currently have 200 paid members and another 42 members who have not paid their 2017/18 subscription. If you are one of the unpaid members, please pay directly into the club bank account your subscription or if, you no longer want to be a member of the OTMC, please send me an email to [debspettinger@gmail.com](mailto:debspettinger@gmail.com). I will soon be contacting all those who have not paid their 2017/18 subscription so please save me some time by either paying your subscription or letting me know if you don't wish to be a member anymore. A huge thank you to everyone who has paid. Debbie

# Trip Reports

## Club activities over the past months

### 20th August 2017 - Bethunes Gulley to Mt Cargill & Organ Pipes

The weather had not been wowing us in recent days and over the past 4 weeks a number of trip changes as a result, but then again it is winter.

On this morning woke to the sound of rain and thought quickly about what we would do if the rain didn't ease.

Got to the club rooms and all the usual suspects were there. I have to comment on two people in particular who appear on a regular basis in the reporting I see on Day Trips. This is Ken Taylor and Alan Hanson who lead the charge on attendance for day trips and it is always a joy to have you in our parties.

On this day we had low cloud and not much chance of a view from Mt Cargill and given the rain in recent days we agreed that we would walk to Mt Cargill and back and not do the side trip of the Organ Pipes.

In total we were 8 people including Andrew McConnell's daughter who had the best seat in the house sitting within a special pack on Dad's back.

Good conversion had by all with a few laughs and stories along the way, then a quick stop at the top and then back down as the rain was on the increase and steady most of the way down.

On behalf of the group – Sharen Rutherford

### 2nd & 9th September : Ben Rudd's Work Days

On our first trip there was Richard Pettinger, Bronwyn Strang, Kathy Woodrow and Tracy Pettinger. We knew there was snow on Flagstaff, but didn't anticipate how much there was. We met Antony Pettinger at the Bullring car park. He had already been up the Firebreak and down to Ben Rudd's shelter and back, and told us stories of more snow.

We went up anyway and it really was beautiful, with no wind at all, just fog drifting around. Where there were open areas we had a go at pulling out small gorse and broom, as the soil was so saturated with all the rain we've had, that the plants came out of the ground easily. We had about an hour of that, but we couldn't actually see the wood for the trees or the gorse from the natives. The tussocks were saturating, and then our hands got very cold – gardening

gloves are not very thermal. We ate our cake on the summit of Flagstaff and went home to thaw out.

The following Saturday, the weather was much improved. As was the turnout. There were Richard and Tracy Pettinger, Sam Patrick, Dave and Penny MacArthur, Ken Taylor and Peter Boeckhout.

We had hours of no precipitation, so we had a good go with snipping and treating the stumps with our chemical gel,



David Bunn, Ken Taylor, Claire Canning, Andrew McConnell with his daughter Lily, Jill McAliece, Jeff Smith and Sharen Rutherford

which requires that it doesn't get rained on for 6 hours after application. Penny specialised in pulling out the wee gorse and brooms around the skid site and down the track towards the shelter. The lads went off into the tussock above the fire break to inspect the work that has been done lately with the spraying contractor's 100 m hose.

They found that there is still lots to do up there in getting rid of the big gorse patch and isolated broom. The contractor must have run out of hose. But, they saw that vast areas where the Club and Trust have been doing painstaking work are clear and very encouraging.

All 7 of us were working from 10am to 3.30pm, with hardly a lunch break. But we stopped for our reward which was chocolate, not cake and a beer that seemed to go down rather well, before heading home.

Someone worked out that over the two days, 52 person hours were completed.

Cheers, Tracy Pettinger.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> September 2017 : Leith Saddle/ Swampy/Burns/Rustlers Ridge**

Again the weather had not been wowing us in recent days. On the Friday night prior snow fell on Swampy Summit and there was still a good amount left by Sunday.

Got to the club rooms and all the usual suspects were there.

We made our way to the Leith Saddle car park and headed up to the top of the Saddle and had a quick snack break and a few "selfies".

The group then walked along the summit to Burns tracks, really fantastic walk through the snow without a breath of wind and although there was some low cloud around we were able to get periods where the cloud lifted enough for us glimpse the views.

Our plan had been to walk down Rustlers Ridge but with the very wet conditions under foot below the snow line we decided to descend via Burns Track.

Another great day!

On behalf of the group – Sharen Rutherford



*Alan Hanson, Lucy Jones, Ken Taylor, Tania McMillan, Greg McMillan, Sharen Rutherford, Claire Canning and Tina Anderson*

### **1-3<sup>rd</sup> September: "Spring" Routeburn**

Two vehicles left early with the van leaving at 6, stopping at Alexandra for tea before arriving at the car park at Glenorchy end around 11.45. We all walked into Flats hut aided by an almost full moon arriving at the hut around 1.30am, although Alex I hear made it in record time.

Saturday morning after a short one hour climb up to Falls hut we dropped our packs and headed up toward the lake in various small groups. Surprisingly there was no snow until we were level with Lake Harris and definitely no frozen lake as some of us were hoping for.

A big difference from same time last year where there was heaps of snow right from the Falls hut. Tomas, Simon, Victor, Trisha and I continued up the track rising above the lake until the snow become icy and packed on the rocky ledge and we decided not to go any further as we were exercising caution and the saddle was lost in the fog. We headed back down through the snow,



*Tomas Sobek*

stopping to pose in front of some awesome waterfalls to the basin below. We then crossed the track and headed up to the tarns on the other side of the track above the falls and a huge rocky view point with awesome panoramic views over to Harris Saddle and

leaving the track to head across the tussock to the lake edge where we met some other groups and had lunch. By this time the sun had forced its way through and turned to a lovely sunny day, though there was a cool wind at times. We crossed the outlet and explored the east side of the lake with awesome views out toward valley of the trolls and down the falls. We found a few frozen tarns and some of us tried out our ice skating skills.

Then we decided to make our way down alongside the falls rather than the track,

down to the flats below.

We headed back to the hut and enjoyed a great Hawaiian themed evening and quiz run by Rodger.

Sunday morning dawned another sunny day, we headed down to Flats hut for a quick bite then off up the North Routeburn, through the bush opening out to a tarn hosting a lovely reflection the the mountains beyond. The snow capped mountains up the valley looked beautiful glistening in the sun.

After a spot of sun bathing we headed back out to the car park and home.

Thanks to Rodger for organising this "Winter" laterly re-named "Spring" Routeburn trip and Richard for driving the van. Maria Hamelink for Rodger Clarkson, Tony Timperley, Jill McAlice, Ralph Harvey, Simon Lim, Andrew McLean, Mark Stephenson, Richard and Alex Forbes, Tomas Sobek, Sonya Mitchell, Rahina Scott Fyfe, Jim Fyfe, Victor Mittlestadt, Melissa Trainor and Chris Cowie.



*Maria, Rodger, Trisha / "Hawaiian Night"*

## 16-17th September : Green Lake

After a short drive from Manapouri to Lake Monowai, we were pleased to see no other cars at the beginning of the track to Green Lake, as our group of 10 was going to mostly fill the 12 bunk hut. The sun came and went as we tackled the ups and downs of the Monowai forest. The track was not as muddy as expected, but as we ventured further into the interior, we found some swampy areas to pick our way through. As

we got closer to the saddle below Mt Cuthbert, we found some patches of snow, but the small area of the open tops was clear. Amongst the tussocks, it was harder to tell where the worst of the mud was, and three members of the group fell victim to a thigh deep mud hole in the middle of the track.

From the saddle, it was a slightly steeper sidle down along the shores of Green Lake and an hour later we were at the hut, basking in the sunshine once again. Green Lake hut really is sited in a beautiful spot. We were feeling confident that we had the hut to ourselves as we spread out, enjoyed dinner and were just thinking about getting ready for bed when we spotted a line of torchlights along the shoreline of the lake. Someone had earlier joked on the unlikeliness of this, so we were rather surprised to meet 4 members of the Southland Tramping Club plus an American couple, who had completed the last hour or so of the track in darkness.



the trip back to Dunedin.

Text and Photos by Rose Colhoun on behalf of: Joe and Sharon Bretherton, Andrew McLean, Sarah Chisnall, Gail Miller, Carolyn Vincent, Michael Stott, Andrea Hudson, Nathan McCauley. Thanks for the great company on a lovely trip.

## 23-24<sup>th</sup> September : Blue Mountains

With a drizzly forecast for Saturday we decided to leave town late on Saturday and make Sunday the day we'd do the traverse of the Blue mountains. We arrived at Blacks Gulley by 7pm and set up camp with 3 people having a hut each and 5 of us in tents. Saturday night was a Pot Luck Dinner and everyone went overboard. After pigging out on starters and mains (Goulash, Nachos, Wraps, etc, etc with a tippie of whisky and wine to wash it down) we decided we needed a break before dessert (Doughnuts with ice cream and caramel sauce).

We settled down for a few rounds of Bananagrams (a type of competitive individual speed scrabble). After a few rounds of showing off my lack of mastery of the English language I finally won a round (Talent always shines through in the end) ... but then some bright spark pointed out there's no e in scalpe - I never asked for a spell check! Curse this English language with its non existent silent e's. About 11 pm we felt we had room for dessert but then with Daylight saving time adjustment it was after midnight when we hit the sack – without knowing the election result.

Everybody slept soundly apart from Tania who suspected there was a mouse in the hut, Maria who found herself in the middle



Little sleep was had in the overflowing hut, but a further surprise awaited when we woke up and found the hut surrounded by snow which was still falling steadily. It wasn't white-out conditions though, and it was actually quite pleasant walking through the bush with the quietness of the snow falling. On the other side of the pass, most of us remembered the deep mud hole, except for one person who may have been mocking the people who fell in the day before..... karma. The snow turned to sleety rain as we continued lower and it was much colder. However, the return trip was faster and we were soon back at the cars ready for a warming hot drink at Manapouri before

of a game of spotlight at an inconvenient moment, and those of us in tents who set up camp too close to the burbling stream. (Why is it you never notice the river noise until you hop in the tent and turn the lights out)

Because of the long day Jan wanted to be away early but there were leftovers to consume (smoked salmon cream cheese, camembert, capsicum and cashew dip on toasted pita bread anyone...well alright then). There were the amusement ground attractions to play on, the wobbly whirly thing, the slidy wobbly thing and the roundybouty wibbly wobbly whirly thing. Its good to know H&S hasn't yet discovered some of the back blocks of NZ.

The route we were supposed to take was 14km and 6hrs on the sign. We set off at 9:20 and at 9:21 walked right past the track we should have taken. A leisurely trip up the hill and crossing over to the intended track

saw us arrive at the junction at 1pm where the sign said 12km and 5 hrs to go to Whiskey Gully. There were spectacular views all around from the Takitimus to the Maungatuas. We had phone coverage and found out the election results. Perhaps the trip was an omen to the election starting from Blacks gully up to the Blue mountains, maybe the trip should have been Green Lake to the Red Hills, now that would be one hell of a weekend trip! A combination of time and blowing a stiff NW a decision was made to head down to Blacks Gully to complete the Blacks Gully loop.

Jan is going to run the trip again on the 1st Weekend in December. It will be a good trip and definitely no wrong turns this time - but if she cracks the whip a bit more in the morning to get a slovenly, overfed bunch of trampers into shape please forgive her!

Rodger C for Jan B, Maria C, Simon L, Andrew M, Cailyn M, Tania M, Mark S



# October Day Walks

## Club Saturday & Sunday Trip List for the month (day tramps and events)

*Unless otherwise stated day trips leave from the club rooms on Saturday/Sunday at 9am  
If the weather is in doubt give the trip leader a phone call to check.*

### **Sun 8<sup>th</sup> October: Unexplored Silverpeaks (Fit) \$5 Richard Pettinger 487 9488**

Join Richard on a mad day trip somewhere local visited by nobody before (well, nobody on the trip). There could be some seriously lost, off-track tramping, so we need the light-hearted but not the faint-hearted. Assemble at the clubrooms at 9am, and we'll sort out where none has been before.

Phone Richard 027 950 4517 or 487 9488

### **Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Mihiwaka, Mt Kettle and Mt Cutten (E/M) \$5 Bronwen Strang 473 1610 or 021 0550 809**

With so many away on exciting 3 day trips, I plan for us to do a 3 peak one – on one day. After depositing a shuttle vehicle near the water trough on Mt Cargill Road we shall continue around to Blueskin Bay Road to park on the harbour side above Port Chalmers and head up the front of Mihiwaka, past wonderful climbing rocks, over the top and down to the “corduroy” road. We cross this and then go up Mt Kettle, back down the same way unfortunately because of tree-fall, around the Cedar Creek Reservoir, across to and up Mt Cutten returning the same way and then heading down the beautiful valley owned by Volco Trust, eventually reaching the dray track and coming out near the water trough from where drivers will shuttle back to the cars. The cars will likely pick us up between 3.30 and 4 pm, to return to town.

### **Sat 28<sup>th</sup> October: Ben Rudd's Work Party Sue Williams 021 712 606**

Please add Saturday the 28th of October to your calendar. We're going to have another work party to give the weeds a good nudge. It would be good to see as many as possible

on the day for as much time as you can spare. Good odds it will be a lovely day and a 99% chance of cake.

### **Sun 29<sup>th</sup> October : Green Ridge - Rocky Ridge - Yellow Ridge (Fit) \$5 Tomas Sobek 455 7878**

We will leave our cars at the usual spot at the start of Green Ridge. After climbing to Pulpit Rock we will continue along the main track for little longer until the turnoff to Rocky Ridge. Although not marked as a track on the official topo map, our travel along the ridge should be reasonably fast and easy. Once we reach Yellow Ridge we start heading back home. Depending on the time we will pick our route for the last bit - either walk along Mountain Road, or exploring the freshly cut track to Possum Hut. There is also the option of getting the gate key and shuffling our cars to make the trip a bit shorter. If the key is available, we can decide about it in the morning with the group.

### **Sun 5<sup>th</sup> November : Taieri River Kayaking (E) \$10 Rodger Clarkson 473 6053**

If you time this trip right with the tides you can get a back current in both directions...I haven't timed it right! Low tide is about 10:30 so we'll start at the Henley end of the Millennium/Taieri river track and kayak 5km down with the current to Taieri Mouth before turning around and paddling into the current back to Henley. You will need to supply your own kayak (I may be able to get 1 spare kayak?) and kayak transportation. Although this is an easy trip you should have some previous kayak experience. I'll be at the clubrooms at 9am but as kayaks are pesky things to transport I suggest you just meet me at the end of Taieri Ferry Road at 9:30am. Please ring or email me so I know who to expect. We should be finished by early afternoon.

# October Weekends

## Club Trip List for the month (weekend overnight tramps and events)

*You must pre-register on the Trip List at the club rooms (or contact the leader direct) before the closing date (normally two weeks before the trip start). Members must pay before departure, non-members upon registering. Vehicle providers may be exempt from the fee (check with the leader). Trip organisational details will follow by email.*

*You are responsible for your gear and medical / first-aid needs (also see Gear Hire).  
(E)asy, (M)edium, (F)itness required.*

### **7-8<sup>th</sup> October: Silver Peaks - Jubilee via the back door**

**(M) \$8+ Peter Boeckhout 021 023 62535**

We'll start from Mt Road carpark and walk up to the turnoff to the devils staircase where we take a left and keep walking until we reach a track that guides us to a fence along the ridge above Jubilee hut. We follow this until we reach point 700 and make our descent to the hut, (\$5 Standard Hut Ticket or Backcountry Pass).

Next day we follow the Yellow ridge via Philip Cox hut via the Tunnels track and the 4wd road or via Arthur's Track back to the carpark.

### **Labour Weekend – October 21-23<sup>rd</sup> Alps to Ocean (A20)**

Cycling from Tasman Point to Omarama along the Alps to Ocean cycle trail. This trip is dependent on having a driver who will follow the cyclists in the van so if you are keen to come along and be our driver please let Maria know. Numbers will be strictly limited and club members will have priority.

The plan is to drive to Jollies car park on the Friday night and camp there in tents. The following day a quick trip up and back to Tasman Point before heading alongside Tasman River and Lake Pukaki into Twizel where we will camp at the Twizel camping ground (87km).

The second day is either a short 34km around the canals and shores of Lake Ohau to Lake Middleton or 83km through to Omarama, this will be confirmed once names and preferences are known. Then over the high point to Omarama or beyond if time allows.

Please contact Maria on 021135041 to register your interest or watch out for the trip list to go up at the club rooms. Trip fee approx \$65. Trip list closes October 12.

### **Labour Weekend – October 21-23<sup>rd</sup> On Your Feet at Lake Clearwater**

This is an OTMC-members-only trip! But if you are looking to become a member and have been out with the club at least once, or have been to a Thursday meeting, then you are welcome to join us. It is a tent-only trip! (Although Friday night we will be in a cabin at the motorcamp). The Lake Clearwater camping ground has toilets and a small kitchen area but no showers.

Leave the clubrooms at 6pm sharp on Friday evening on 20th October. Stay overnight in a cabin at a motorcamp near Geraldine. Saturday: drive to L C. Briefly set up camp. The campground is right beside the lake with fantastic views to the hills all around. Altitude 700m so it might be cool at night.

Saturday, Sunday and Monday – just day trips! But they'll be challenging enough and might inspire one of you to organise a longer trip another weekend. There are heaps of interesting hills to climb! And huts to stay in!

Cost : about \$23 for a cabin bunk on Friday night, or about \$20 for a tent site. Lake Clearwater cost is about \$5 per person. Plus petrol costs (about 700km total). Contact Jane Cloete 467-2328

## **4-5<sup>th</sup> November : Kepler in a Day!**

**(Fit) or with potential for a separate  
Luxmore-Return in a Day (M)**

**Sarah Chisnall 467 2812**

**\$40 + Holiday park cabin fees**

If you've ever wanted to do the Kepler Challenge minus the expensive entry fee, or to just achieve bragging rights, then here's your chance as the OTMC Kepler in a Day is back again this year. Take part in a challenging but achievable experience by walking the 60km Great Walk track with other like-minded people. The complete circuit is a Fit trip only as you will need a decent level of fitness and stamina. Also be prepared for an early morning start, to be out walking for 12-14 hours and for the prospect of a fair few hours of climbing up to approximately 1600 m altitude along the way. Ability to stomach inane and slightly hysterical banter also comes in handy. However, if there is enough interest to form a small group with an experienced person to be leader, a separate Moderate (M) option to cruise up to Luxmore Hut and

explore Mount Luxmore before returning back the same way (approx 28-30km) could be included too, the OTMC version of the Luxmore Grunt....but will also involve an early start due to transport logistics. We will travel light with just day packs (with stipulated essentials) and gym shoes so will easily eclipse the standard DOC times. The plan is to travel in an anticlockwise direction as this allows the option to miss the last 10km (from Rainbow Reach to the Control Gates) in the event you find you are suffering a bit by this stage. It is not a race but a personal challenge for you. Obviously this trip will also be weather dependent as we will require good weather for the exposed top section. We will be staying at the Te Anau Top 10 Holiday Park on both Friday and Saturday nights, so there will be a hot shower and take-aways to recover post-match, approximate cost \$25-30 per night per person for cabins (depends on final trip numbers) in addition to standard trip fee. Trip list closes 26 October - if you are keen PLEASE clearly indicate whether you are signing up for the FIT whole Kepler or the MODERATE Luxmore return option.

# **October Thursday Meetings**

**Thursday Club Social Meetings at the Club Rooms 3 Young Street, South Dunedin**

*Members, non-members, visitors , all are welcome to these social events.  
Doors open at 7:30 for an 8 pm start*

I would like to introduce your new Thursday night organisers – Debbie Pettinger, Gail Mitchell and Sharon Bretherton. We have made a great start to filling in the Thursday night social programme for the rest of the year and are starting to think about what members would like to see in 2018. If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers, please talk to one of us and we will do our best to organise it.

## **5<sup>th</sup> October : Antony Hamel, Tramping in the 1950's**

The recently published diaries of poet, literary editor and arts patron Charles Brasch reveal he was a keen trampler. Why was he tramping in the 1950's and how different was tramping then?

## **12<sup>th</sup> October Tracy Pettinger – Wombling in Southern Spain**

Tracy dragged her hapless husband on day walks in the searing heat of Costa del Sol with promises of beer at the end of each silly event. Come and hear how he protested.

**19<sup>th</sup> October – BYO** This is the first Bring Your Own photo night since early August so there should be plenty of photos from recent trips that need to be shown. Please bring your photos on a USB.

*... continued over -->*

**26<sup>th</sup> October: Barry & Helen – Mont Blanc**

In September Barry and Helen did the Tour du Mont Blanc, a 170km trek that encompasses the whole of the Mont Blanc Massif; with nearly 10,000m of cumulative ascent and descent, thru Italy, France and Switzerland. They'll talk about the experience and the contrast between tramping in NZ and hiking in Europe, together with a few photo's selected from the many taken.

**2<sup>nd</sup> November: Richard Pettinger – Tramping with the OTMC in the early 1970's**

Before he settled down into married life, Life Member Richard P observed many intriguing and occasionally troubling events in the late 60s and early 70s of the OTC/OTMC. He is well equipped to lie about it all. He may describe who got him into tramping and how. Expect names to be dropped (some should even be dropped entirely).

*"Spring" Routeburn : Rodger Clarkson*



**October 2017**

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1 Powder Hill with Sharen Rutherford 027 229 1961
2 Cmtte	3	4	5 Antony Hamel Tramping in The 1950's	6	7 Silver Peaks (Jubilee) with Peter Boeckhout 021 023 62535	8 Unexplored Silver Peaks with Richard Pettinger 487 9488
9	10	11	12 Tracy in Spain	13	14	15 Tunnels to Possum Hut with Jan Burch 027 455 4559
16	17	18	19 BYO Photos	20	21 Labour Weekend with Maria 021 135 0141 or Jane 467 2328	22 Mihiwaka etc with Bronwen Strang 473 1610
23	24	25	26 Barry & Helen : Mont Blanc	27	28 Ben Rudd's Work with Sue Williams 021 712 606	29 Green/Rocky/Yellow Ridges with Tomas Sobek 777 3047