

OTMC BULLETIN



Newsletter of the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club Inc

787 November 2017



***Tunnels Track to Possum Hut 15 Oct 2017
Clambering down to Waikouaiti River South Branch, Silver Peaks
Tomas Sobek***

November Trips & Events

Kepler (in a day)	Kayaking Taieri Mouth to Henley
McKellar Tops	Ben Rudd's Picnic & Rhododendrons
Leith Saddle - Swampy - Rustler's Ridge	
Kea Basin & Beyond	Rosella Ridge

Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club, PO Box 1120, Dunedin

www.otmc.co.nz facebook.com/groups/otmcnz 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?

The property is owned by the OTMC, and the BRMT operates under their direction. Trustees welcome any calls, comments and/or questions regarding the property and are looking forward to ensuring that any decision regarding the future of the property with OTMC is based on correct information and expectations. The following is a personal comment by a Club member who happens to be a Trustee!

Having just paid our subs (regularly since 1986!) , we received a copy of the Constitution, and it struck me that we should re-read our goals while considering the future of the Ben Rudd property with the OTMC. The Constitutional objects/ goals states that the OTMC will foster, assist, provide, encourage "walking, climbing, skiing (hmm, not much of that lately!) and mountaineering, and to arrange facilities in connection herewith". Perhaps the first step is to consider the property in light of our Constitution, THEN consider whether we can/ want to maintain it.

The property has a special history and unique value to the OTMC, but also is a flagship of our contribution to the city and area in general. Members of the public wander there, see the signs and consider the hut site a destination, rather than a walk. Some Scouts have their first overnight camping experience at the hut. Work done is restoring the native bush and wildlife. There will ALWAYS be gorse and broom along the Firebreak, whatever we do – as evidenced by the years that little or no work was undertaken in this area- it looked worse from the road, but the spread of the invaders did not penetrate the thicker native bush. There will ALWAYS be gorse and broom above

the Firebreak road – when I first came to Dunedin in 1976, the walk from the Bullring up to the plane table was all tussock, but has since reverted to manuka scrub as a natural regeneration process. This could be allowed to occur above the firebreak on our property, but at present we are maintaining it in line with the adjoining DCC land and maintaining open tussock.

Since the establishment of the BRMT, QEII and various conservationists have been involved in planning and management of the property. Some years, there has been virtually no work done there, during others we have had a more intensive approach. I personally have been unable to do very much over the last year, but one summer spent every Tuesday there with Task Force Green workers . I provided morning tea and while I talked with the TFG workers to help them understand what we were doing and why it was important, Arthur put up signage, and marked GPS points and warratahs. There were no work parties that year, but progress was made, and outings enjoyed by 2 Club members. Averaged out, I suspect the property requires less input and expenditure than the Club rooms, which are also used by only a small proportion of members. This is not an onerous task!!

So maybe we should all consider how the Constitutional goals apply to all our properties and assets, consider our approach to community and the outdoors and then see if we can make things happen?

Individual contribution of Teresa Wasilewska (Club member since 1986 - now, alas, in semi retirement, Trustee of BRMT since inception-)

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
- Tent/Flys
- Personal Locator Beacons
- Climbing Helmets
- Avalanche Probes and Transceivers

Your Committee

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Ben Rudd Trust and Leaning Lodge Trust contact : Alan Thomson	455 7878	thomson@ihug.co.nz

Membership Debbie Pettinger, Membership Secretary

It is great to have over 200 members who have paid their subscription for the 2017/18 financial year. Thank you to everyone for being so prompt with payment. There are only a few people who have not renewed their subscription and this (the November) Bulletin will be their last Bulletin.

Trip Reports

Club activities over the past months

15th October: Tunnels Track to Possum Hut

Leader: Jan Burch

Trip rating: Medium

Start 10:00 am, finish 3:30 pm.

Distance walked: 9.65 km.

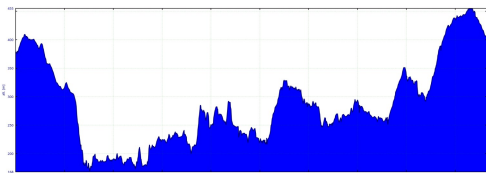
Time walking: 3 hours 30 minutes

Average speed: 2.8 km/h.

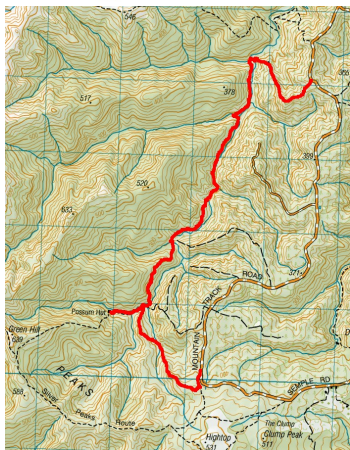
Climbs 939 metres, descends 914 metres.

Lowest altitude 168 metres and highest 455 metres above sea level.

Altitude profile:



On the map:



I have started using my GPS a bit more, as you can probably tell. Originally my primary motivation was to be able to easily geo-tag my photos. But the uses seem to be evolving. Looking at the statistics from this trip it really surprised me that we actually walked only three and half hours. The rest were stops. But those stops were very important. We walked along the freshly cut River Track with the man who spent 5 years of his life cutting it. Arthur gave us a long list

of insightful interludes at various places along the track, pointing in directions of other tracks as they intersect or merge his one. Old water race, new benching he just cut literally last time, plans for improvements in spots he is not quite satisfied with, explanations why the track is following particular line. Next time we should be recording such occasions a bit better, it would be an interesting story to capture. And all those plans he has for future improvements and other tracks in the area - it would be certainly an evolving story to tell.

But for now at least our group could enjoy it and first hand. Together with a fairly decent amount of ups and downs and a splash of water in places. All in all a great way to spend your Sunday.



Alan enjoys the day : Tomas Sobek

Tomas Sobek for Sharen Rutherford, Ken Taylor, Alan Hanson, Ash Flintoff, Sandy Webb, Holly Yang, Kirsten Bebell, Karen O'Neill, Jan Burch (leader) and most importantly, Arthur Blondell (who created the track).

8th October: Unexplored Silver Peaks.

Where had six people not explored? It would appear that no one had been to the source of Nicols Falls. Leith Valley here we come, to find a small warning sign on the high side of the creek stating the constructed bike trail was being used that day for mountain bike competitions!

No problem. WE would not be using that track.

A short way up the Glow Worm/Water Fall track, a sign indicated Glow Worms-Waterfall. We needed "Waterfall". Let's go that way, but a short way up, ...boring...so to make matters interesting we decided to go bush and sidle up to where the falls should be, and so came out just where the regular track gave us a view of the waterfall. Crossing the creek we continued to gain height until higher than that, (biggest), fall was, and then began cutting back through the bush to re-find the creek, and then boulder hop to the next smaller fall. Again a steep foot and hand-hold required bash around the side, and hopefully to the top. Vertical and horizontal progress was slow, but eventually we came back to the stream for more boulder hopping and scrambling through and along the creek. A small gorge had opened



Nicols Falls - Alan Hanson



Nicols Creek - Carpark Lin

out and despite some individual attempts to get past, the only option looked like a very deep wade. This was decided to be not an option, so we again tried to go off track on this the true left side to continue the attempt to reach the head of the creek.

Going up we touched on one of the zig (zag?) corners of the mountain bike track, so we bush bashed straight up to again find a possible encounter with the bike riders, (the bike track). At this stage we were not far from a lunch time site, (a table was promised). We carefully continued to what turned out to be the uphill/downhill start/finish line for the mountain bikers, only to find them already in residence. Never mind it was entertaining to watch the seemingly wave after wave of bikers arrive, have a breather, then take off, like demons were pursuing them, for their downhill time trial.

Lunch over someone said they had not been down the Transmission Line track for many years, so after continuing up Moonlight/Moon track, (take you pick), to the ridge track, on to Transmission, down to the end of the vehicle track (photo and botany lesson

and collection stop), down to the Morrisons Burn vehicle track, some big trees, and five minute walk to the weir intake, (a first for many), cars then home.

Thank you: Richard Pettinger (leader), for Tracy Pettinger, Simon Lin, Ken Taylor, Mark Stevenson, and Alan Hanson (scribe).

19-20th August: The Silver Peaks, Gorse pruning @ the GAP

We started from the Mt Road carpark and we were at the Jubilee hut in under 3 hours. After a leisurely lunch we packed our day packs, lopers, gloves, poison gel and slashers and walked to the GAP. We made a plan of attack and started cutting, slashing and painting like mad man. There was good progress made at the middle part of the GAP and soon we started making some photos to capture the difference from one hour ago. We spent a good 3,5 hours at the GAP area and still there was a lot of gorse that could have been eradicated if we had a couple more trampers who had the same view of what state gorse should be in. We made our way back to the hut and while we're at it every little and big gorse bush we encountered on the way back got the same

treatment as their cousins at the GAP. We arrived back at Jubilee hut after almost 5,5 hours and we started cooking our well deserved dinner.

Next day was overcast, raining and cold. We walked back to Mt Road carpark in 2 hours and 50 minutes. But not before we had looked at what Robert thought were sprayed spots at the other side of the creek opposite Jubilee hut. And yes there was dead gorse but most of the other plants around it were dead too.



Top of Mt Cargill : Peter Boeckhout

All in all a good productive weekend, just a pity we did not have anybody else with the same passion for gorse cutting. Maybe next year.

Peter Boeckhout for Robert van Hale.



Geraldine Kerr

24th September: Grahams Bush to Mt Cargill.

10 keen trampers started at the road end from Sawyers Bay. It was a steady climb up to Mt Cargill road. Along the way we encountered 3 traps with a couple of nice fat rats inside. All thanks to the Halo project. After a small break beside Mt Cargill road we moved on and visited the Organ Pipes, Butters Peak and Mt Cargill all in that order. Butters Peak is spelled with an A in most references including Antony Hamel's tracks and trails and my Topo GPS app, but the sign clearly is written with an E as in Butters Peak... not sure who can maybe clarify this? There was a strong breeze so we moved on towards Mt Cargill. Had a short look around and settled a bit lower out of the wind for lunch. We were not alone on the tracks, many others enjoyed the views

that day. We made our way back the same way and arrived at the cars around 2:30pm.

Peter Boeckhout for Ken Taylor, Kate Williams, Alan Hanson, Geraldine Kerr, Lucy Jones, David Armstrong, Karen O'Neill, Kira Lazaro and Sue Rhodes.

1st October: Chalkies Track to Powder Hill

A beautiful spring morning, sunshine, no wind when we left the clubrooms at 9.00. On arrival we met up with the others who drove directly there. Once everybody was ready we walked up the Silverstream valley, crossed the bridge and then down the road to the start of the Chalkies track. The first part of the climb is up a rough road; once off that up a clay road and then into the bush. A steady climb up until about 20mins from the chalk faces we stopped for morning tea. We then carried on to the chalk faces which have recently collapsed a bit, admired the view and carried on to the top. There Tomas and Peter wanted to bush bash a bit to join up with the downward track, so Ken and Holly followed and caught up with the main group shortly after. Continued down the hill until we came out of the bush onto a flat clearing where we had lunch enjoying the sunshine. Continued down the road until the bottom where we decided to carry on tramping along the Racemans and McRaes tracks. It wasn't long before we came to a very slippery boardwalk after which we crossed McRaes stream and a short climb up to the water race which we followed until we turned left, and back down to the Silverstream river, crossed over and headed downstream on the Powder Creek track passing the Powder Ridge track. Along the way there were boggy patches and near the end we crossed over an old weir and then soon after on the road to the carpark, having to cross a ford which made sure everybody had wet feet and clean boots. Thanks to Sharon Rutherford for leading the tramp and Tomas for helping on the 2nd part. Ken Taylor for Peter Boeckhout, Ash Flintoff, Sandy Webb, Jane Cloete, Lucy Jones, Esther Abeln, Holly Yang, Alan Hanson, Tomas Sobek.

13th August: Taieri Millennium Track from Taieri Mouth to Henley

An optimistic group of 7 people headed away in cloudy but ideal conditions.

We left the carpark at Taieri about 9.45 and walked along beside the Taieri River for about 20 minutes, then it was on up the hill to the seat at the top and this was our morning tea stop with great views up the Taieri River to Henley in one direction and Taieri Mouth in the other.



Once we left it was all downhill to the very pleasant John Bull Gully for a photo or 2 but as it was only 11.30, we decided to forge on to another picnic stop that was near the Henley end and sure enough about 45 minutes later we were there.

Lunch was beside the Taieri River which was high and a dirty colour but was a nice secluded place to stop. After lunch it was back the same way we came through native bush to not so native pine and gorse bush near the summit of where we had a short stop for a drink and to admire the view of Dunedin's coast where we could see all the way to Harakeke Point on the Sandymount coast. Then it was back downhill through more native bush to the bottom and the boardwalk which brought us back down to the river again.

A short walk had us back at the car about 3.00 pm. This was a fabulous track which was enjoyed by this small group of keen trampers. Ash Flintoff for Leonie Loeber (leader), Peter Loeber, Ken Taylor, Lucy Jones, Steph McLaughlin and Mark Ferguson.

November 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 5th 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.

Sun 12th November: Ben Rudd's
Picnic and Rhododendrons
(E) \$5 Alan Thomson 455 7878

Our annual visit to the club's ancestral home on the far side of Flagstaff. Join us for an easy ramble across Dunedin's skyline using less travelled routes, including a picnic lunch with the management team who look after our land. Also visit the Rhododendrons that were planted in the 1950's, they can look rather magnificent at this time of the year.

Sun 19th November: Leith Saddle -
Swampy - Rustler's Ridge
(M) \$5 Peter Boeckhout 021 0236 2535

Sun 26th November: Rosella Ridge
(Silver Peaks) (M) \$8
Tomas Sobek 03 777 3047

The new River Track kindly created by Arthur Blondell opens a wealth of new options, or at least makes them much more accessible. So for this trip I am toying with the idea to explore some parts of Rosella Ridge I haven't visited previously. Come and join me if you are feeling adventures. I cannot promise we will be always walking along a well defined track, but it's bound to be a good tramping fun. There are still nooks and crannies of Silver Peaks waiting to be explored.

Sun 3rd December: Skyline Traverse
(M) \$5 Debbie Pettinger 473 7924

Join us for a wander along the northern Dunedin Skyline from the Bullring to Mt Cargill Road below the Organ Pipes, including the summits of Flagstaff, Swampy Summit and Mt. Cargill.

The tracks themselves are very diverse, ranging from wide well benched tracks to tracks with mud and tree roots. The trip should take between 7 and 8 hours, and provides many magnificent views.

November 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.*

4-5th 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.

11-12th November: McKellar Tops (M/F) \$55+ Ian Billingham 021 2797881

Fiordland's Ailsa Mountains stretch from Emily Peak above Lake Mackenzie to Greenstone hut, separating the Greenstone and Caples valleys. For most trampers, these mountains are crossed over via the McKellar Saddle while on the Caples-Greenstone Circuit. But for those who are prepared to go off track, over 5km of tussock covered ridge and tops await north of the saddle, combining spectacular alpine travel and views while forming a direct link between the Caples and Routeburn tracks. These are the McKellar Tops.

On Friday 10th November we head across to Te Anau and the Milford Road to camp at the Cascade Creek Campsite. On Saturday, starting at the Divide, we make our way up onto McKellar Saddle via the Routeburn, Greenstone, and Caples tracks. We'll leave the track here and, after checking out the lake at the start of the Caples River, make our way north along the Ailsa Mountains, sidling around Peak 1449 before dropping down onto the open rolling tops which stretch beyond Pass Creek. We can climb a couple of peaks (conditions permitting) for views into the Caples before camping at the large tarn beside Point 1085.

On Sunday we make our way around the head of Pass Creek and over Point 1197

(fantastic views of the Hollyford) before we face a good old fashioned Fiordland bush bash down to the Routeburn track. We can admire Earland Falls, and then on the way out, head up Key Summit and push down the ridge onto the open tops of the Livingstone Mountains to gaze across the Greenstone valley at where we have been.

Please note there is an additional cost of \$13 for staying at the Cascade Creek Campsite. It is also highly advisable to bring along either 3 Back Country Hut Tickets or an annual Back Country Hut Pass just in case we have to use McKellar hut on the Saturday night. These can be purchased from the Octagon DOC centre.

As this is a spring trip ice axes and crampons are required. These can be hired from the club if you don't have your own.

Any questions phone or email me yarmoss@yahoo.co.nz

Keep your fingers crossed for a weekend of nice weather. In Fiordland. In Spring.



The large tarn beside Point 1085 where we'll camp on the Saturday.

25-26th November: Kea Basin/ Rees Valley (M) \$55 Richard Forbes 03 453 1327

The Rees Valley is at the head of Lake Wakatipu and is part of the popular Rees/Dart circuit. We will camp at the road end in the Rees at Muddy Creek on the Friday night where there are reasonable tent sites and a toilet

Kea basin is a hanging valley below Mt Earnslaw and the views are great, above the bushline so no sandflies. The main Rees River will need to be crossed to get there so conditions need to be right for the crossing. It is short climb from the

valley floor to Kea Basin. There is a great bivvy rock near the basin and the old historic Earnslaw Hut is down in the bush, but the main option will be tents by the stream in Kea Basin itself. The more energetic can climb towards Esquilant Bivvy for even more views. On the way back on Sunday the site of the now demolished 25 Mile Hut on the true left of the Rees can be visited.

Other options if the river is no good to cross is up the Rees Valley track to the DOC Shelter Rock Hut and back.

Trip list closes 16th November

2-3rd December: Blue Mountain Traverse (Take 2) (M/F) \$30+ Jan Burch 027 455 4559

A day walk disguised as a weekend trip! We leave the clubrooms at 6pm Saturday, drive about 2 hours to Black Gully Campgrounds and either put up tent \$5 or go into a hut \$15 for the night. Early Sunday morning we take a vehicle to Whisky Gully for a steep climb to amazing views, a walk along the ridge and then descent down to Black Gully.

For a description and photos see

<https://www.natwick.co/single-post/2017/02/19/Ultime-Guide-to-Hiking-New-Zeland%E2%80%99s-Blue-Mountain>

This is my second attempt at the traverse, see Roger's trip report for details of Take 1

9-10th December: Lake Hauroko - Teal Bay Hut (F) \$55 Sarah Chisnall (027 327 0327)

Lake Hauroko lurks down in the bottom of the south, tucked away behind Tuatapere. The name Hauroko means 'The Sloughing of the Wind', and along with a local transport boat named 'Te Namu' (sandfly), gives one an indication of the nature of the area. It is however a stunning, beautiful place.

We will travel down Friday evening and stay somewhere in the Tuatapere area (yet to be determined) to allow for an early-ish start the next morning.

Starting from the boat launching carpark

area, most people catch the boat across the lake to begin the Dusky Track. However, on Saturday morning we will be following the shoreline south to the far end of South Beach, over a small headland and continue along to the end of a secluded beach. This will be the last opportunity to fill up with water before climbing up onto a ridgeline which we will be following for roughly 7kms as it heads south. We then descend directly down a spur to pop out at Teal Bay Hut (12 bunks), sitting on the southern end of Lake Hauroko, approximately 2kms from the lake outlet.

This will be a FIT (F) trip as it will be a reasonably long and hard-ish day of 8-10 hours

walking and sandfly swatting, with very limited access to water along the way.

On Sunday we can return the same way back to the car, although there is a possible option to follow an alternate route over the Hump Track (not to be confused with the Hump Ridge Track) to eventually come out at Te Waewae Bay and onto Rarakau Carpark (also a long hard-ish day of approximately 9 hours). This alternate route would be dependent on being able to arrange suitable transport logistics due to the distance between track ends.

Trip list closes on 30 November. If you are keen, sign-up and pack your insect repellent...

November 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*

2 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)

9 November: Sharon Bretherton and Debbie Pettinger – Food for tramping

With Christmas and longer tramping trips not far away, now is the time to start thinking about keeping the weight of your pack down and that includes the food. Sharon and Debbie will have examples and suggestions for tasty meals for tramping, with an emphasis on dehydrating your own food.

16 November: Red Cross Basic First Aid

A representative from the Red Cross will be talking to us about the importance of having First Aid knowledge, performing a Primary Assessment and how this may help at a time when you don't know what to do or how sick the person is.

23 November : Project Kereru

The Kereru (Wood Pigeon) is a favourite in many home gardens and Project Kereru helps the sick and injured birds in Dunedin. We will hear about why Kereru are being injured and how we can help as well as visit the rescued Kereru aviary in Green Island.

30 November: Tramping in the 1960s

Trevor Pullar is a life member of the OTMC and he will share his exploits and tramping in the 1960's

7 December: BYO

or Back up for Project Kereru

If the weather is not suitable on 23 November for a visit to the Kereru aviary we will swap with a BYO,

We'd love to see your photos of recent tramping trips. Please bring them along on a USB to show at club. This is the last night at the club rooms for the year 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.

Five Pass trip : Late January till early February 2018

The classic Five Pass trip is a well-known multi-day trip in the headwaters of Lake Wakatipu. The trip traverses the Beans Burn and Rock Burn valleys, and visits Fohn Lakes on the fringe of the Olivine Wilderness area. Obviously, the trip include five passes – these are Fohn Saddle (Beans Burn to Olivine River), Fiery Col (Olivine River to Upper Olivine River), Cow Saddle (Upper Olivine River to Hidden Falls), Park Pass (Hidden Falls to Rock Burn) and Sugarloaf Pass (Rock Burn to Route Burn).

The trip is mainly untracked (there is a track in the Beans Burn, and lower down in the Rock Burn) and there are no huts, just three bivy rocks. The whole area is a fantastic tramping area, and the Five Pass trip is on most trampers 'bucket list'.

The trip will run between January 27th (Sat) and February 3rd or 4th, (Sat / Sun) 2018.

The trip is not technical, although you should be able to safely travel on steepish snow (this is late season, and there may still be snow on the southern faces of Fohn Saddle & Fiery Col).

I am aiming to take 6-7 days to complete the trip, but dates can be locked in nearer the time. The Fohn Lakes / Sunset Peak area is one of the highlights of the trip, so it is worth spending a couple of nights here.

In 2010 I split the group of 16 into two lots of 8 (2 parties of 4 each) to minimise our impact on the area – I would do the same again if we had the same numbers.

If you are interested in joining this trip, please email me at antony.pettinger@gmail.com, or sign the list at the clubrooms. I plan to close the list in early December to allow plans to be made over new year.

Antony Pettinger

November 2017

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
		1	2 Tramping 1970's with Richard P	3	4	5 Kayaking with Rodger Clarkson 473 6053
					Kepler in a Day with Sarah Chisnall 467 2812	
6 Cmtte	7	8	9 Tramping Food with Sharon and Debbie	10	11	12 Ben Rudd's Picnic/Rhodos Alan Thomson 455 7878
					Mckellar Tops with Ian Billingham 021 279 7881	
13	14	15	16 Red Cross Basic First Aid	17	18	19 Leith Saddle/Swampy/ Rustlers Peter Boeckhout 021 0236 2535
20	21	22	23 Project Kereru	24	25	26 Rosella Ridge Tomas Sobek 03 777 3047
					Kea Basin & Beyond with Richard Forbes 453 1327	
27	28	29	30 Tramping 1960's with Trevor	1	2	3 Dec Skyline Traverse Debbie P 473 7924
					Dec 2-3 Blue Mountain Traverse Jan Burch 027 455 4559	