

OTMC BULLETIN



Newsletter of the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club

800 February 2019

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



BULLETIN

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NOVEMBER 1992
BULLETIN NO. 515

THE OTAGO TRAMPING AND MOUNTAINEERING CLUB
MEETS SOCIALLY EVERY THURSDAY
7:30 pm
AT 3 YOUNG STREET (Clubrooms)

145 METRES OF ROPE AND
YOU'RE FINDING FAULT
WITH THIS LITTLE BIT ?



November 1992

1992-93 OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT	Antony Pettinger	473-7924
VICE PRESIDENT	Peter Mason	473-7636
SECRETARY	Sue Lovick	473-8427
TREASURER	Eric Lord	454-4043
CHIEF GUIDE	Rhonda Robinson	473-8142
EDITOR	Debbie Pettinger	473-7924
MEMBERSHIP SEC.	Dean Petersen	473-0648
GEAR HIRE	Neville Mulholland	479-1061
SOCIAL SEC.		

Celebrating our
800th
Bulletin
with a look back
at past issues

February Trips & Events

Maungatua Traverse Ocean Grove Mt Cook Area

Careys Creek Possum Hut to Tunnel Track

Green Lake Taieri River Tramp and Pack Float

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

Bulletin #800

Readers of this publication will have noted that this issue will be the 800th Bulletin, a significant achievement for the club. What follows is a brief overview of club publications, as well as having a look at the changes with the monthly Bulletin.

The first publication from the Otago Tramping Club appears to be the [September 1934](#) edition of *Outdoors*, which was initially issued quarterly. The content was quite varied, ranging from information on how to use your camera, to the inclusion of the 1933 / 34 Annual Report (Green Peak Hut had been opened in June 1933 and was proving very popular). The most important contribution was the inclusion of the history of the club over the first eleven years by R. Gilkison (he was one of the party that was confronted by Ben Rudd in September 1923). His article 'Early Tramping Club Days' provides the best overview we have of our formation years, and has been used in later histories, including the impressive work Ron Keen compiled for the 50th Anniversary *Outdoors* in 1973. To date the club has published similar articles up to 2013 (90th Anniversary), which means we have a great overview of our history.

In time *Outdoors* became a (normally) annual journal featuring mainly trip reports to all corners of the world, with the Bulletin becoming a more immediate publication concentrating mainly on upcoming events. With *Outdoors* now only appearing very occasionally, the trip reports are now the main content in the Bulletin.

The first Bulletin currently held in the club archive is [number 17](#) from October 1947 (hopefully earlier editions will be found in our extensive Hocken collection). This is a simple double-sided typed information sheet, and contains the same information we still include today (welcome to new members, upcoming trips etc). The club had just obtained the Flagstaff (now Ben Rudd's) property, and three Christmas Trips were planned.

[Bulletin 105](#) (Oct 1955) had increased to 8 pages and included an article on fatalities in the hills as part of FMC's 'Safety In The Mountains' campaign.

By October 1964, [Bulletin 201](#) was back to two pages and advertised the club photo competition (I wonder whether we will ever uncover all the entries and winners from past competitions?).

Ross Davies was the Bulletin Editor in 1973 – the April issue ([Bulletin 301](#)) was back to 8 pages. By now, brief trip reports were being included in the Bulletin. Names spotted in this edition will be familiar to more of the current membership.

Pre-printed title pages have been introduced by the time of [Bulletin 401](#) (June 1982). These

Bulletins were printed on the club Gestetner (an erratic duplicating machine). This was a time when the Bulletin's workpartys were more than just stuffing envelopes – members printed the Bulletin from a stencil on this machine – most copies were readable!

Technology caught up in [1985](#), and the club moved to a photocopied A5 folded booklet format, and better print quality. The masters for these were truly 'cut and paste', with real scissors and glue all over the place.

[Bulletin 501](#) (August 1991) is a good example of true 'cut and paste', with the text being painstakingly typed on the club typewriter (it was electronic and quite good).

Colour covers were introduced with the [September 1992](#) Bulletin (#513). For members that liked to keep all copies of the Bulletin this provided a bit a variety on the bookshelf. A further change was made in November ([Bulletin 515](#)), which was typed on the new club computer (text only, graphics remained as cut and paste on to a master copy for photocopying).

A new design for the Bulletin was introduced in 1997, and can be seen in [Bulletin 601](#) (Sept 2000). This format took advantage of being completed entirely by computer, then laser printed before sending off to be printed. Not too long after this we were able to email a computer file to directly to the printer – quite a change from the first Bulletin. Around this time, we also starting emailing an electronic Bulletin to members – this has now become the dominant form of delivery.

[Bulletin 701](#) (November 2009) was a full 16-page Bulletin, and now includes colour photos (at the time the printed copies were still black and white). The feature of this Bulletin was a night for Life Member Ian Sime, who sadly passed away in 2018. Ian had stood down from the committee and we showed him our appreciation for a job well done by holding a 'This Is Your Life' evening for him.

So now with Bulletin 800 we have continued to evolve. Thanks to Barry Walker's perseverance with printers the printed copy has been in full colour for three years or so, and has enjoyed a refresh in design. The Bulletin has been a vital communication tool for the club over the 800 editions, and provides an accurate look back at who was in the club and what they got up to, and is an important part of who we are. I'd estimate that we have over 600 Bulletins scanned in our archive, and our mission is to get copies of the missing ones.

If you reading the printed copy of this, you can access the electronic copies of the Bulletins referred to at this address:

<http://otmc.co.nz/800th-Bulletin.html>

Antony Pettinger

September 1934

OUTDOORS

Secretary:
G. A. PEARSON,
P.O. Box 462, Dunedin.

The Official Organ of
The Otago Tramping Club, Inc.

Editor:
J. C. LUCAS,
34 Russell Street, Dunedin.

Contributions Invited.

September, 1934.

Issued Quarterly.

Volume 1, Number 1.

A quotation from the poets—definitely highbrow—or should it be "Dear Readers?" How to commence a paper such as this is by far the most pressing of all the vexed questions which confront an amateur editor striving to find a suitable opening. It has been suggested that the correct beginning is an apology for launching yet another publication on a long suffering world and, whilst we may be prepared to admit that this may be technically correct we are not sufficiently egotistic to think that the Otago Tramping Club is a large enough portion of the world to justify our using the correct technical opening. This, of course, leaves the problem still to be faced but as we appear to be getting on fairly well at the moment perhaps we can shelve the pressing question of a suitable opening and proceed.

Whilst we do not apologise for our appearance it may be appropriate to mention the main objects we hope to achieve. These are, in addition to an anticipation that we will assist in attaining the objects set out in the club rules, a desire to provide an outlet for the literary talent of O.T.C. members and thereby the provision of a permanent record of the activities of the club. We will accordingly be glad to have articles from those fortunate members who go further afield than the average member is able to do and also from those other members who can write an interesting account of an ordinary club trip. Under this category will be included the leaders of club outings who will please supply for publication short details of the expeditions under their control. We have arranged to have a short photographic column in each issue and are confident that this will prove a popular feature. In addition reprints of suitable material will be made as space is available and here again you can cooperate by bringing to our notice any interesting matter you may have discovered.

The form in which our journal is now presented is the result of a careful investigation into such mundane matters as costs of production etc., and, needless to say, this is the least expensive of the proposals considered. We feel it better to start thus leaving plenty of room for the improvement which your active co-operation will bring in each successive issue. Whilst dealing with this aspect of our paper we recollect the first occasion when a magazine was discussed on one of the club outings. The suggestions were many and varied but by far the most popular was for a publication com-

plete with photographs and coloured plates like a 'National Geographic.' We have not forgotten this suggestion but from the more or less lofty eminence of our recently acquired knowledge of the publishing business we can only see our journal in such a guise as a faint star on a far horizon. It is not our desire that you should be contented with our efforts but rather that you should realise we are attempting to cut our coat according to our cloth and, remembering these limits, we ask you to send in your criticisms. Will each and every reader take this as an invitation to write to the editor saying what he thinks of the club's latest venture and how he considers it can best be improved? Such a general request for letters might almost give one the idea that the club is to get a commission on the postal revenue so we hasten to say that this is not the case but that when it does come about we will remunerate our paper on 'National Geographic' lines.

At present the only official place for airing any complaints you may have is the annual meeting and as this opportunity is available but once each year, we will provide space for brief "Letters to the Editor." You will note that we said "brief" letters.

Official notices to members will be published in our columns. With the idea of reducing costs where possible we commence this custom by including the club's annual report in this issue.

And a word about advertising. Mention has already been made of our recently acquired knowledge of the publishing business. The term "recently acquired" also applies to our information about advertising. For one acting out almost gaily in lunch hours and evenings with an idea of getting writers' cramp, taking down orders for advertisement space it came something of a shock to get four refusals in one short half hour. Each name taken off the list of "possibles" reduced the probable size of the paper but fortunately a sufficient number of public spirited firms agreed to give us an advertisement to permit the production of this sheet so we ask you to rally round and give your custom to the firms who are advertising herein. Remember they are paying the bulk of the cost of producing this paper and as they wrap up your parcels say "I saw your advertisement in the Otago Tramping Club's paper." Can we leave this to you?

We leave our efforts to your judgment with anticipations of a full post bag containing your comments on this issue and your contributions for the next.

YOUTH HOSTEL ASSOCIATION.

The Canterbury Regional Council of the Youth Hostel Association is holding a combined Tramping Clubs' outing on Sunday, September 23, from Motukarara to Charteris Bay. O.T.C. members who are in Christchurch during this week-end are given a cordial invitation to take part in the trip. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary.

THE FEDERATED MOUNTAIN CLUBS OF NEW ZEALAND.

We now have the facilities to hand on to our members some of the information which is regularly received from the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand, whose third annual report records the capable manner in which the interests of trampers are being safeguarded. Mention may be made of the preparation of a complete list of huts throughout New Zealand which work has now been practically completed. Information in respect of this list may be obtained on application. The Federation has also made application to the Minister of Internal Affairs for a grant of £2,000 to form the nucleus of a search fund for lost trampers. From time to time we will keep you advised of their further activities on our behalf.

EXCHANGES.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of numerous publications from kindred societies throughout New Zealand. These have been most helpful in our invasion into the world of journalism. In addition to the papers mentioned we have received a copy of 'The Sydney Bush Walker Annual' in which the doings of our Australian friends are recorded in a most interesting manner.

Labour Week-end Trips.

No. 1.—Middlemarch and Rock and Pillar Range.

Leave Dunedin by 11.40 a.m. train on Saturday, 20th October. Approximate cost, 30/-. As it will be necessary to arrange for hotel accommodation, names of those wishing to take part in this trip must reach the Secretary not later than 6th October. A deposit of 10/- must accompany each application.

No. 2.—Club Hut and Hindon.

Approximate cost, 5/-. An inexpensive trip in good tramping country.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING APPEARS ON PAGE 3.



Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club

Postal Address: P.O. Box 1120 Dunedin

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Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Committee

April 1973 Bulletin

No. 301

Editor: Ross Davies, 38 Victoria Road, Dunedin Phone 51-023

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED a few technical hitches in the last two Bulletins. Hopefully things will be back to normal this time. Also, thanks to Trevor and Russell for duplication and Aileen for typing this month's effort.

The Club has just completed another Bushcraft Course and already must consider next year. We run the Courses for Mountain Safety who give some help and a little money. Over the years the numbers instructed have dwindled from about 100 to 18 this year. This is as a result of deliberate Committee policy.

Another theory is that every group runs a Bushcraft Course these days and there is no demand. However, for various reasons the Club's Committees of late have been doing everything possible to attract older members, as a cure-all, and this policy has extended to Bushcraft. Little effort was directed at school age folk. Result; a small Bushcraft Course. Result; people in the hills with less knowledge than they might have?

Of course this means instructees get more individual attention and learnt more. However, the aims of Mountain Safety are, and ours should be, to make as many people as possible aware of the hills and to help everyone 'do their thing' in the hills safely and happily. Bushcraft Courses as a source of new members should be a by-product, not an object. It is however a valuable by-product. A large number of new keen members increases the scope of trips and makes trips more economical. (What was the last Club trip to use a bus?)

The Committee might rather see a Teachers Course run every two years, as a means of reaching as many people as possible. Is this in our line? Shouldn't we continue with large cumbersome youthful noisy boisterous social Bushcraft Courses? At least they were fun.

SOCIAL

The Club meets on Thursday nights in the Clubrooms, 9 Dowling Street, Dunedin (opposite DNTV2) at 7.30 p.m.

Last month we substituted the Himalayas for the Antarctic. Ken Blackwood showed slides and spoke on his experience at McMurdo Sound, Scott Base and Vanda Station last summer. Thanks Ken for an enjoyable talk.

Dr Phil Houghton's slides went missing and he was unable to give us the scheduled talk on the Himalayas, but he has promised to do this when they turn up, probably at the end of May or June.

PROGRAMME

April 25th - Films on New Zealand from the Tourist Corporation
May 3rd - Ron Nilsson will address us on the Auckland Islands. Ron spent three months doing surveys on the bird life. A good night is assured.

**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.

5th November

Phil Somerville will bring along Stephen Jaquier's bird photos, we will form into six teams for a quiz, identifying what bird is being shown. Spot prizes, and prizes for the winning team.

12th November

The club is always looking for trip and party leaders. We will give you an overview on what skills are required to be a trip or party leader in our club.

19th November

Dave Chambers and Allan Perry have just returned from walking the Bibbulmun Track in Western Australia. They will tell us about their forty seven day tramp, and how to organize such a long tramp.

26th November

Walkies time!!! with the long evenings at the end of November. Meet at the club rooms at 6.30pm, we will go up Harbour Cone (easy/moderate grade) bring a torch and \$5 for trip cost. We should be back at the club rooms between 9 to 9.30 pm.

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 tonytimes@xtra.co.nz) or Ralph Harvey (phone 453 4330, email ralphh@ihug.co.nz)

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

President's Comment : Antony Pettinger

Welcome to 2019 with the OTMC. That the club is still delivering what our founders intended 96 years ago is testament to the efforts of many members over the years, and we will definitely be reflecting on what the tramping club has meant to so many people in the lead up to the centenary, which is not really that far away now.

The committee have a list of topics we plan to discuss during 2019, and we will share these via this column as required. As we are running the club for our members, we are always grateful for any feedback on any aspect of club activity, be it trips, meetings, publications, communication etc. The best way to do this is to have a chat to one of the committee members, or send an email to the club address (otmcnz@gmail.com). You could even write a letter to the Editor of this publication – haven't seen one of those for a while.

One change we have introduced is moving the summer day trip departure time to 8am (from 9am). This is a trial for the current trip card and we intend to review how this has worked out (at this stage the winter day trip programme will revert back to 9am). Feedback we have received thus far has been mixed, and average numbers compared to 2017/18 do not appear to have been affected. This is one topic we would like further feedback on – I know there are supporters for both 8am and 9am departures, maybe 8.30am will end up being a fair compromise?

An informal survey was held via the email list in the latter part of 2018 regarding the Thursday night meetings. This followed discussion within the committee on the support of a weekly meeting. The club has traditionally met weekly on Thursdays for many years (previously it was Friday nights before distant weekend trips became more common), and it has been 7.30pm (meeting proper starts at 8pm) for as long as most of us can remember. Looking at what other clubs are doing has been mentioned, but I strongly believe we need to do what is best for the OTMC. It is true we have not struggled for speakers or topics for some years now, and all

evenings have been enjoyable. The committee discussed the results of the survey at the end of last year and the majority support the status quo, although I am keen to explore this further when the whole committee are available.

The key discussion seems to be around format of talks, and attendance levels. I would be keen to hear from our members on the topics – would you like to see more or less of any topics we have had in the past couple of years (tramping trips, members history, flora or fauna, overseas travel (with or without tramping content), cycling trips, BYO etc.) and what other topics would you like to see introduced. This will lead to asking members to contribute more with ideas and even arranging the Thursday meetings (which is where this whole topic came up when allocating committee positions in September last year). Please let us know what you think.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who helped with the exterior refurbishment of the clubrooms in November / December last year. The clubrooms had been in need of a complete repaint for some time, and it is great to be able to say this is now pretty much complete. We still have issues with the gate which we are working on, and we plan to tidy up our side of the boundary fence. We have also upgraded the seating inside – the 10 comfy seats we have had for some time were well sought after, so we have boosted the number of these to 40, and retired the older kitchen type chairs (they have gone to a good home). The first club night of 2019 saw these fully utilised, with a full meeting of 50 people, a great start to the year.

Antony Pettinger, 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 Sharen 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
- Climbing Helmets
- Avalanche Probes and Transceivers

Your Committee

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Membership Debbie Pettinger, Membership Secretary

We welcome Gregory Slui as a new member. Gregory brings our membership total to 205

It is great to see new people coming along to our Thursday meetings and Sunday day trips. Please take the time to talk and make new people feel welcome. It can be intimidating to come along for the first time and it is important that we take the time to talk to people and encourage them to come back to our club.

Trip Reports

Club activities over the past months

1-2nd December : Eyre Mountains, Ashton Hut

Peter Boeckhout, Caitlin Robertson, Simon Lin, Greg Slui, Tim Russell (leader & scribe)

Friday 30th

With one cancellation due to the weather forecast being "a bit average", it was four of us who headed away from Dunedin on a Friday evening. There was a takeaway stop at Gore for those of us who had not yet eaten. Then we proceeded in light rain to Mossburn, where we met Greg who had travelled from Roxburgh. By now the rain had stopped and we were hopeful of a dry night time stroll. About this time I confessed that this was my first time leading an OTMC trip. The team was slightly reassured when I explained that I was actually a fairly seasoned trampler and had in the past led a few trips for another club.

linking up to keep safe. A river crossing at night was a first for most of us. Soon after 11 pm we were at the characterful Upper Oreti Hut and not too much later were in bed.

Saturday 1st

The day dawned dry with high cloud. The weather seemed settled for now, so we decided to tackle the longer, higher and harder day today, rather than do the trip in reverse (as we would have done in the event of dodgy weather). The forecast was for the possibility of afternoon showers, maybe heavy. We hoped that they would be isolated.... over somewhere else. Departure time was around 7:30 and our first rest stop was at the tiny 2-bunk Lincoln Hut further down the Oreti River. Lincoln Hut has a relatively recent coat of "rescue orange" paint, as any good NZFS era hut should. Now the effort level stepped up a bit as we



Large tarn in the basin above Ashton Hut : Tim Russell

We set off a little before 10 pm with headlamps on. Apart from some large puddles to negotiate, the old 4WD track down the wide valley of the upper Oreti River was easy to follow. The main obstacle was a larger than expected Ashton Burn to cross, requiring

began the bush-bash section, following GPS and compass until we reached a spur that would lead us up to the tussock tops, about 1.5 hours later. From this point onwards navigation was easy and the exertion level stepped up a notch. With a little bit of

encouragement, the team made it to the ridge top for a well-earned lunch. We were rewarded with extensive views of the Eyre Mountains and Mavora Lakes. Below us was the pretty head basin of the Windley river, dotted with tarns and large patches of snow. Being a Tim-led tramp, lunch lasted well over an hour.

We followed the ridge north to the high point Pt.1619 and again stopped to take in the views. A fun scree run and then a sidle took us around to Pt 1506. We looked down on a large tarn, with adjacent smaller tarns providing a breeding site (presumably) for a significant number of black-backed gulls. From here we followed a long curving spur down to Ashton Hut, which you can only see when you are 5 minutes away. And that is where we sat and chatted as we contemplated our achievements for the day, before we ambled down the final section to the hut at about 5 pm. Our timing was near perfect, as rain set in for the evening about an hour later. Multiple courses for dinner, plus a wee dram of whiskey, had tired but happy trampers retiring for the night at 10 pm.

Sunday 2nd

The rain was long gone, however misty cloud hung around the tops. We hoped that the sun would win the battle with the clouds before we reached the ridge top. Today we were taking the direct way back to the car, via Pt 1330. As for most of this tramp, there is no track, so we picked the best route we could for a slightly rough sidle to a crossing of a small side stream. From here on it is a

steep and obvious grunt up to the ridge. By now the sun had started to do its job and the views opened up. Which was a relief, because as trip leader you somehow feel responsible for what the weather throws at you. We had an extended break here, warmed by the sun and studying much of the high route we had traversed the previous day. We crested Pt 1330, then began the descent to the Ashton Burn.

A rest stop at 11:45 on a terrace just above the Ashton Burn turned into a lunch stop when the clock ticked over to 12:00. Our Trampers Union length lunch lasted until 13:00, being very pleasant in the warm sun. No-one was in a hurry to leave. Eventually of course we had to move and we set a quick pace back to the car. We said our goodbyes to Greg at Mossburn. Peter informed me that it was official club policy to have an ice cream stop on the drive home - being new to trip leadership I was in no position to disagree.

All in all, it was a successful trip. It challenged the fitness level of some, others experienced new aspects of tramping. For the two who were new to bush-bashing and scree running, congratulations, you did remarkably well. Greg the Photographer gave his brand new high-tech camera a serious workout, and found one or two issues that need attending to. He impressed the rest of us with the weight of professional gear he carried with him. And I got to lead an OTMC tramp for the first time. Thanks very much guys for making my job easy! And thanks to the weather for being much better than average.



20th January : Crystals Beach To Toko Mouth

A beautiful day but very windy and was surprised to see so many waiting at the club rooms. We drove down to Crystals beach, parked up and got ready to tramp down to the Tokomairiro river mouth. Hard going into the gale force sou/west wind and getting sand blasted as well. Stopped at Cooks Head , had a look and carried on. Had morning tea about halfway under the shelter of the dune grasses. carried on until we came to the river mouth, had a look around and started to head back. a lot more

pleasant with the wind behind us and easing off a little. Once we got to Cooks Head we had a early lunch, wind had picked up again and sand all over our food. Carried on to where we parked, dropped our packs and walked through the settlement looking at the cribs and then back to the transport and home. Nice to get out of the wind..

Ken Taylor (leader), Jane, Lucy, Russell, Debbie, Sheena, Ryan, John, Shane, Ash, L Prattle

CLUB Communications

There are several ways the OTMC communicate with members and others interested in what we do, here is an overview of our electronic offerings:

Website: www.otmc.co.nz, or just www.otmc.nz. This holds the main information about the club, and is often the first contact visitors have with the OTMC.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/otmcnz/> Love it or hate it, Facebook is an important communication tool for the club. With over 1800 'members' it's reach is wide, and is contributing to the high numbers on recent Bushcraft courses, as well as the number of new people enquiring about the club.

OTMC Email Discussion List: sign up at <https://lists.otago.ac.nz/listinfo/otmc> This is an opt-in list (we do try and sign up new members who tick the box on the membership form). We share information from FMC and DoC via this list, as well as any newsletters from other clubs and other relevant information via the list. If posting to the list, just remember that it is not just club members who receive it. We recommend all members sign up to this list.

OTMC Weekly Update: This is posted to all current subscribers of the above email list (we manage the signups from the email list). The update is intended to promote the next two day and weekend trips, as well as the next two weekly meetings and other important info as required. This is quite a bit of work to put together every week, so any feedback on this would be appreciated.

OTMC Photo Archive: <https://www.southerntramping.com> This site is replacing the collection of photos that have been held on the main website, and allows better viewing across all devices. This site will be used to share items from our photo archive in the lead up to the OTMC Centenary.

We also use an email list that goes to all current members, posting to the list is limited as much as possible, and is mainly used to email club notices such as the AGM information or anything that we only need to share with the current membership.

If you have any questions or need help with any of the above please contact Antony at otmcnz@gmail.com – we can help with signing up etc.

OTAGO TRAMPING CLUB

BULLETIN No. 105

OCTOBER, 1955

Supper Duties

- Oct. 14th. Graeme Crabbe & Bill McLeod.
28th. Len Davies & Bob Cunningham.
Nov. 4th. Ron Rawlings & Warwick Stewart.
11th. Nola Gamble & Pam Barton.
18th. Gordon McDonald & Allan Palmer.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

Club Room Talks:-

October 28th. Ron Rawlings will be showing coloured slides of his climbing in the Tasman area.

November 11th. Health Department, Films by "Pete Smith" on First Aid and also demonstration of the Holgar Nelson method of resuscitation.

November 25th. Peter Robinson, Fullbright Scholar will be giving an illustrated talk on Outdoors in U.S.A.

November 18th. Photo Competition.

Photographic Competition:- will be held in the Club Rooms on Friday night November 18th. All entries must be handed in to the Club by November 11th. together with 6d. entry fee. (6d. each entry). Two sections, Scenic and General in two groups Colour and Black and White,

Start now by looking out those snaps and having them enlarged to $\frac{1}{2}$ plate (6x4) or larger at any Commercial Photographic Shop.

February 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 (non-members pay \$13 more than the members fee shown below). 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).

9–10th February : Mt Cook Area (All) \$55 Wayne Hodgkinson 473 0950

A number of trips of differing fitness grades are available in the Mt Cook area from Fit (Ball Pass, Annette Plateau and others) through Moderate to Easy (day trips based from the White Horse campsite). If intending to stay at Mueller Hut (1800m) you will need to book a place (\$36) as it is in season. There are some campsites near the hut.

We will need to sign in and out at the Visitor Centre.

Heaps of possibilities. Here are 4:

Ball Pass (Fit + Snow Skills)

Weather dependent. This trip will be 2 long-ish days, and only be open to Fit **club members** who have **demonstrated** snow tramping experience. Ice axe and crampon skills are required, this is not a snow skills instruction trip, but might suit those who have completed a snow skills course. We plan to start early from the White Horse campsite, starting up the Hooker Track and on to the Mount Cook Range. The route is lightly marked, exposed in places, and likely to involve walking over loose scree, and steep scree/rock and snow. If the weather forecast is favourable, I would like to head for a high camp on snow near the pass at 2121 metres, otherwise we will camp lower down. There may be a chance to climb Kaitiaki Peak at 2222m on Sunday before we head down the spur via Caroline Hut (private) towards the Tasman Glacier. There is then a bit of a broken road walk to meet a vehicle at Blue Lakes carpark.

Approx. times are: Saturday – White Horse campsite to Ball Pass 10 hours, Sunday 8 Hours.

Annette Plateau (Fit)

Starting with a vigorous 4 hour climb past Sealy Tarns onto the ridge and Mueller Hut. Sidling 200m below the ridge on the Mueller Glacier side, eventually climbing onto the plateau to find somewhere to camp. The plateau is open to the northwest, so could get windy. Climb the bump on the eastern edge called Mt Annette (2235m). Sunday either retrace our steps, or head down steepish snow and rock via Sebastopol Ridge & Red Tarns. The trip in reverse is also possible. Ice axe & crampons required.

Sealy Range (M/F)

As above, staying at Mueller Hut or camping nearby. Stunning views, watch some impressive ice falls off Mt Sefton.

Day Trips (E – M)

Camping at White Horse Hill. Times offered are for return trips. Day trips could include Sealy Tarns (4 hr return), Mueller Hut / Mt Ollivier (1933m) 8 hrs, Ball Hut (6-7 hrs), Hooker Track to the glacier lake (3hrs), Red Tarns (2hrs), Blue Lakes / Tasman Glacier 1 hour or so.

On the trip list please indicate your fitness and preferred trip. Each trip will run only if we have a suitable leader for each. This is an alpine area so a good 3 or 4 season tent would be required.

If the weather is unfavorable, we will postpone to the following weekend (16th-17th).

23-24th February: Green Lake

(M) \$55 Rose Colhoun 021 151 3791

Green Lake is one of the nicest spots for a hut in Fiordland and isn't that hard to get there. There are three options to get there: the easy way is on the track from below Borland Saddle, leaving the road from Borland bivvy on a three hour trip through tussock to the hut with the option to visit Island Lake on the way. Second option is to walk in from Lake Monowai, a 6-7 hour walk on track over a pass to the lake. Third, more challenging option is to head over the untracked tops from Mt Burns to the lake. Could combine some options to make a round trip. Accommodation on Friday night will be at a family crib in Manapouri.

9-10th March: Lake Ohau Valleys

(All) \$55 Richard Forbes 021 510 760

I have been to the Ohau area since I was 15 and keep coming back as it is a gem. The Lake Ohau valleys are less crowded and off the beaten tourist track than other valleys at this time of year and offer mountains, huts, rivers, views, small flats and tops to camp.

Options are endless with Maitland, Feehold, Temple, Hopkins, Huxley, and even Dobson valleys with tributaries to explore depending on desire, skill and transport options at hand

We leave Dunedin on Friday night and can camp either at Omarama, Lake Middleton or Monument Hut in the Hopkins depending what people want to do. We can drive to Monument Hut if 4WD vehicles are available

Trip list closes 28th February to give me enough time to organise things.

13-17th March : St. James Walkway -Lewis Pass (M)

Leader: Dave Bunn (029 779 7006)
Trip List Closes: February 28

Transport costs \$80, huts total cost \$45 or annual hut pass.

At 66km the St. James Walkway is the most alpine of New Zealand's walkways, passing through mountainous terrain in the northern

reaches of the Southern Alps. The track takes in a mixture of beech forests, open high country flats and river valleys. None of the sections are particularly strenuous and the two passes are fairly gentle. The trips is well worth the effort, very picturesque and for those with limited experience is a must because it is relatively easy introduction to multi day tramping.

Leaving 13 March, we will travel from Dunedin to Lewis Pass, ready to start tramping the next day from Boyle Outdoor Centre past Cannibal Hut to Ada Pass Hut (5 hours). From Ada Pass Hut, the next days tramping to Anne Hut will take approx. 8.5 hours and then the following day will be onto Boyle Hut (7 hours) with the last day of 5 hours back to the Boyle Outdoor Centre.

There is an additional cost for car storage at Boyle Outdoor Centre which will be split between those on the trip. Huts do not require booking and are the standard \$15 DoC fee. Please have hut tickets or annual DoC hut pass.

30-31st March : Quarantine Island (E) Jane Cloete 467 2328

The Easiest weekend trip for the year! Approximate cost of \$30 includes the ferry and also overnight accommodation

There'll be two ferries going across on the Saturday – one late morning and one late afternoon.

Stay overnight in the old house – lots of bunks and beds – bring a sleeping bag or duvet! Or you are welcome to use a tent!

Saturday evening meal will be pot-luck – large kitchen – electricity! – and assorted pots, pans, plates and cutlery.

Sunday morning there'll be ferry from Port C about 9.30-10.00am for any of you who'd just like a day trip; and the 'overnight' folk could return on that ferry!

Or there'll be another ferry early-mid afternoon to take the overnights and day-trippers back to the mainland.

Hope to see lots of you there!

February 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 8am
If the weather is in doubt give the trip leader a phone call to check.*

*The trip fee is paid directly to the vehicle provider (best pay at beginning of drive).
(E)asy, (M)edium, (F)itness required*

**2nd February (Sat @8am) : Maungatua
(M/F) \$8 Jane & Carolyn Taylor
027 571 7712**

I had hope to do Maungatua Traverse, however my reconnaissance has revealed the Grainger Rd track from above the bush line is dense high impassable gorse- still a good walk though beautiful bush to viewpoint (3-4 hrs return). The Woodside Glen track to rocky outcrop is the other good option - stiff climb in the bush and a bit of a battle through chest high tussock but well worth it -invigorating and fabulous views (approx 5 hours return). So, no Traverse but we will do one of these depending on groups decision.

**3rd February (9am) : Ocean Grove
(M) \$2 Ken Taylor 027 411 9037**

**10th February (8am) : Carey's Creek
(M) \$5 Peter Loeber 477 4895**

The plan is basically walk down Carey's Creek, although we will probably start by walking up the "paper" road that goes up through a pine plantation from the top of Wrights Rd at Waitati.

At the top of the paper road we will look over Black Gulley dam and head down the creek to Evansdale, where we will leave one of the cars.

I cannot remember this day tramp being undertaken by OTMC for a long time. Whatever it's a good days walk through the bush and its another place where its interesting to ponder on the effort our forebears went to lay the old pipeline.

The grade is medium with quite a few shallowish river crossings.

**17th February (8am) : Possum Hut to
the Tunnels Track (via the river!)
(M) \$10 Antony Pettinger 473 7924**

Navigation on this trip is quite simple – just follow the river...literally, and be prepared to get wet. The trip down the South Waikouaiti was quite enjoyable in 2016 (you can read the trip report in [this Bulletin](#)), hopefully we will have a hot sunny day for this trip.

We will head down to the South Waikouaiti just below Possum Hut from Hightop, and then proceed to follow the river right through to the Tunnels Track. Since the last trip the river track on the true left is now more or less complete, so this can be used in parts for those who have had their fill of the river. This is not the trip to bring your best camera on, and pack your gear well with dry bags – there is at least one section we can swim through. We have the option of walking back along Mountain Road to dry out (or we can do a vehicle shuffle).

**24th February (8am) : Taieri River
Tramp & Pack Float
(M) \$10 Wayne Hodgkinson 473 0950**

Tired of just walking everywhere? A tramp with a difference, and a good chance to brush up on your river crossing. The main plan is dependent on a low flow in the Taieri River of 5 cumecs, (can be checked at <http://water.orc.govt.nz/WaterInfo/Site.aspx?s=Outram>) or google 'taieri river flow outram', which enables us to combine river-side tramping and scrambling, with wading and "pack floating" through deeper holes. Although graded "M", you should be prepared for some bush bashing/boulder hopping. This is one trip where we will set out deliberately to get wet rather than hoping to avoid it, so you need to be wearing fast drying thermals, with all your gear secure in waterproof bags in your pack, also including floatation. Dry bags would be ideal. You

could pop in some empty drink containers for flotation (with lids on!!) Assuming the required flow, we will leave the clubrooms at 9:00am and drive to our final destination at Outram Glen where we will leave a car. We then crowd into the remaining cars and drive up Taioma Road to Mullocky Gully near the Taieri Railway. Here we will start walking past a railway viaduct, down to the Wild Earth Adventures launch site where we cross the river and start heading downstream. Keeping mostly on the true right, we will cross the river and wade / pack float as necessary to find our way down to Lee Stream, and the formed track to Outram Glen. It should take about 6-7 hours.

If the river is too high, we will do the start of the trip to the Wild Earth Adventures launch ramp, return to the cars, or drive down to Outram Glen and complete the finish end as far as Lee Stream, which should be a relatively easy walk – allow a total of 4 hours in this case. Phone me on the Saturday to confirm.

3rd March (8am) : Silver Peaks - Trevor Mason Memorial Trip (M/F) \$10 Antony Pettinger 473 7924

It is now eleven years since we tragically lost Trevor Mason in a river crossing accident on a club trip near Whare Flat. This trip will retrace the only trip Trevor was able to lead for the club. The original trip was to be Yellow Ridge – ABC Cave – Jubilee – Devils Staircase – Rocky Ridge – Yellow Ridge. Understandably this was graded FE. As it turned out, the original trip could not be completed, and Trevor's backup plan of using Hightop was used – this is the trip we will do (no dropping down to Jubilee Hut). The trip will take around 8hrs. Bring plenty of water as there is none along the tops of the Silver Peaks (there are some great views though!).

Chief Guide Comment

Ian Billinghamurst has unfortunately had to pull out of his planned trip to Sleepy Hollow for Otago Anniversary Weekend 23-25 March. The 3 day weekend is now available for someone else to lead. This could be the planned trip (Sleepy Hollow) or an alternative of the new leader's choice. Please contact Wayne 03 473 0950 or wp hodgkinson@xtra.co.nz

Orchids on Green Ridge Silver Peaks in January, macro photography by Tomas Sobek



15 *Odd-leaved (Aporostylis bifolia)*



Fingers (Caladenia)



Blue Sun (Thelymitra)

February 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*

7 February – Informal night

As this night is the day after Waitangi Day and many people may be taking advantage of the 'short' week by taking annual leave and heading away into the hills, this is an informal night. Announcements, tea/coffee, biscuits and chat.

14 February – Nik Hurring, Project Kereru

The OTMC really enjoyed their visit to Project Kereru in November 2017. There have been a number of changes made recently to the Kereru sanctuary and surrounding area. Nik would like to share the work that has been put in by herself and the many volunteers over the past year.

21 February – Caitlin Roberson, Dunedin's Water

Have you ever wondered where Dunedin's water comes from and what happens to it

before it reaches your tap. Part of Caitlin's job is looking after our water and making sure it is safe for us to drink.

28 February – Rodger, South America

Rodger recently returned from the southern part of South America and will give talks over 2 Thursday night meetings. In this, the first talk he will focus on his trip north of 45 degrees, which will include Iguacu Falls, the Pantanal wetland area, Rio, and if time allows continuing onto Northern Patagonia including climbing Villarica Volcano and rafting in Futaleufu. The 2nd talk will focus on Southern Patagonia south of 45 degrees.

7 March – BYO Photos

There has been a lot of tramping over the past few months and we'd love to see where you have been. Please bring your selected photos along on a USB stick to show at club.

February 2019

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2 Maungatua Traverse : Jane & Carolyn Taylor 027 571 7712	3 Ocean Grove with Ken Taylor 027 411 9037
4 Cmtte	5	6	7 Informal Evening	8	9	10 Careys Creek with Peter Loeber 477 4895
					Mt Cook Area with Wayne 473 0950	
11	12	13	14 Nik Hurring Project Kereru	15	16	17 Possum Hut to Tunnels Antony Pettinger 473 7924
18	19	20	21 Dunedin's Water Supply Caitlin Roberson	22	23	24 Taieri River & Pack Float Wayne Hodgkinson 473 0950
					Green Lake with Rose 021 151 3791	
25	26	27	28 Rodger Clarkson's South America			