

OTMC Bulletin

Bulletin Number 665, August 2006

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.

3 August

Ran Turner will give us "The Hikers Guide to the Galaxy"

10 August

Our very own Gary and Heather will host the OTMC Quiz
Night - a fun night for all

17 August

B.Y.O. - show us what you've been up to!

24 August

OTMC Annual General Meeting - come along and have
your say on important club issues.

31 August

Monika Fry will speak about Project 241, an Oxfam Water
for Survival Programme project that aims to create lasting
improvements in health and hygiene in Eastern Highland
schools of Papua New Guinea."

Any ideas, and contact names in particular, are welcome
for the Thursday evening activities. Please contact Fiona
Webster (Social Convenor) at "fionaw@tekotago.ac.nz",
or 487 8176 if you can help.

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

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Although recent OTMC trips have been geared for the winter conditions, they appear to have been very well enjoyed by those participating on them. The late June trip to the West Matukituki is an excellent example. I put this trip on the programme as a variation on the popular Mt. Cook trips run over the past three years. The weather could not have been better, not a cloud in the sky, temperature hovering around 0 to -2 degrees and a really neat valley. This is definitely what winter is all about in the hills.

Another trip recently run was the visit to Ancient Establishments (although some described the trip as something else). Again, this was run in classic frosty winter weather. The trip was designed to be a great social day out with the OTMC, and it was. Thanks to Wolfgang's organisation we had a very enjoyable day.

I have written before about the plans we have for the clubrooms – all going well, by the time you read this the majority of the work will be finished. The aim is to revitalise the interior of the clubrooms with a lighter paint scheme using a 'pioneer red' trim. It is no coincidence that this colour scheme is similar to the current breed of DoC huts – we were inspired by a recent trip to Morgan and Sabine Huts in Nelson Lakes.

Once the painting has been completed (including the ceiling, alpine club cupboards and noticeboards) we will be enhancing the displays that we have in the clubrooms. Expect more colour photos, especially of recent club activities, as well as more promotion for club activities. Additionally, we will be replacing the imperial maps on the wall with a series of metric ones. In doing so I would like to acknowledge again the contribution made by Marie and the late Gordon McDonald in 1990 towards the imperial set of maps – they have served us well – thank you Marie.

The carpet in the clubrooms has reached the end of useful life so we are on the lookout for a replacement. If anyone has any contacts, the Committee would love to hear from you. My thanks go to Ann, Barry and Terry C for the work they have done to reach this stage.

Our ability to do the above is in no small part due to the generosity of the Southland Building Society (SBS) – the club wishes to acknowledge the contribution SBS have made to the betterment of our clubrooms. I urge all members to come and have a look at progress.

Finally, there has been a change of date for the AGM, it is now 24 August, as shown on the trip card. See you there!

Antony Pettinger

Membership

Two new members this month: Danny Leahy, 620 Portobello Rd, 478 1117, who did Bushcraft this year; and Kate Price, Box 6427, 476 3552, who did Bushcraft some years ago! Welcome to you both.

Vivienne Brensell, Liz Clark, Ramona Clark, and Jenny Flack are not renewing their membership. We wish them well.

Jenni Wright and husband Bruce have moved to Invercargill to run a motel, 388 Tay Motel, freephone 0508 388 829, and will welcome any members with warm southern hospitality! They consider themselves to be "Dunedinites on loan".

Back on a Thursday night, 11 May, someone handed me \$40 but I failed to note what for! Could the owner please tell me so that I can give it to the Treasurer.

Ian Sime
Membership Secretary



OTMC Pizza Night
Filadelphios,
7pm, Saturday 19 August

Set menu of garlic bread, wedges, pizza, \$15
Family and friends welcome
RSVP Fiona (phone or clubroom list) so she
can confirm numbers

4 July, 2006

Bill Wheeler
Programme Manager – Visitor Assets
Department of Conservation
Dunedin

Dear Bill,

JUBILEE HUT – SILVER PEAKS SCENIC RESERVE

Thank you for your letter dated June 12 and for the presentation given to the OTMC Committee by Barry Atkinson on the same day.

The OTMC is supportive of both the proposed location and design of the new hut. We agree that the proposed position will have a much nicer outlook when compared with the current site. We believe that the current hut, although in a less than desirable state, is still well used throughout the year. As OTMC members use the hut less and less we believe that any new hut should be a ‘DoC’ hut.

The Committee agree that the current OTMC owned Jubilee Hut is now beyond its use by date, especially with the encroaching bush around the hut creating a damp environment. To this end the Otago Tramping and Mountaineering Club give permission to the Department of Conservation to remove this hut once the replacement hut has been established.

The OTMC Committee has also resolved to allow the department to remove Yellow Hut, meaning that the Silver Peaks Scenic Reserve will be served by one hut. Although Yellow Hut is in a poor state, and ownership may be dubious, the value of retaining Yellow Hut as an emergency shelter should be considered before its final removal. With access to the Tunnels Track occasionally blocked by high river levels, Yellow Hut provides the nearest available shelter.

On the other hand, if the proposal to build a new hut is dependant on the removal of Yellow Hut, then the OTMC have consented to this (by way of a Committee resolution).

We hope that in building the new hut, DoC can acknowledge in some

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way the contribution the OTC/OTMC have made in providing a hut in Cave Stream since 1951. (Jubilee Hut was built to celebrate the tramping club's 25th Anniversary and has strong sentimental value to some of our older members).

The OTMC wish the department well with this project and look forward to the opening of the new hut.

Yours sincerely

Antony Pettinger
OTMC President

REMINDER

If you, or anyone you know, want to hire the OTMC clubrooms, then contact Alan Thomson at 455 7878 to avoid any embarrassment from a double booking.

DISCOUNT

As a club we have the opportunity to purchase Swannndri products at a 25% discount provided we buy 20 or more items. Yes, Swannndri make more than just jackets! Their catalogue shows muck boots(?), socks, men's and ladies' shirts and leggings, etc. Go have a look at their website. www.swannndri.co.nz and let me know if you're interested.

Alan Thomson ph 455 7878.



Trip Reports

MAITLAND REVISITED

18 FEBRUARY

Once again I found myself leading a trip to the Maitland area. This time, being early February, the crossover into Freehold Creek would not be a problem. The same trip in October 2003 has been a "no go" due to snow depth and bad weather. The Friday night had been fairly uneventful, although one of our numbers was almost run over by a car while he lay in his sleeping bag. Saturday morning revealed that a few of us in the dark had chosen dodgy sites to rest our heads.

The morning was cool and as we set up the Maitland, people chattered amongst themselves, becoming better acquainted with each other. Gary Moss was telling me his latest jokes and tales of London life. The track to Maitland Hut is fairly straight forward with a couple of grunts and a wee scree slope to play on. The day began to heat up, a huge change from last time, and we stopped for lunch at the hut. It had seen some attention since my last visit but was otherwise as I remembered it.

Continuing on our trek, we picked our way through tussock and the infamous spaniard grass which seemed to lunge at us at every available opportunity. When we hung a left and headed up to Lake Dumbbell, the day got hotter, the spaniard got thicker and the climb got steeper (well that's what it felt like). It began to take it's toll on the group. But with people helping and encouraging each other on (oh, and the occasional death threat!), we all arrived at Lake Dumbbell safe and well, if not a little bugged.

We had the lake to ourselves and it wasn't long before tents were up, teas made and the sound of chainsaws and bullfrogs could be heard across the lakes waters.

Next day was clear with no clouds and no wind, so after breakie we marched off to the top for some rewarding views of Lake Ohau and the surrounding area. After some discussion we took the route down to the head of Freehold Creek, where, after a rest, we clambered on down the track looking forward to the bushline to get out of the sun. The rest of the trip went without a hitch with quite a nice track and I was glad I was heading down and not up.

Overall not a bad trip, nothing too exciting and the views on Sunday certainly the highlight, with the spaniard grass and high temperatures a low point. And, of course, the people - can't remember the entire list of names, but thanks for the company, see you in the hills.

Cheers, Gary Dawe

Waimakariri Col

April 29th – May 1st

Terry Duffield and Rob Seeley

A Xerox function prevented a Friday start to the weekend, which was originally going to be the Polnoon Burn and Black Peak. The Anzac Day weather and stock mustering at the Shotover Branches Station put an end to that and Arthurs Pass had a better forecast so a plan change was in order. Even then my original intention was a loop trip crossing Jordan and Sphinx Passes, I made the mistake of bringing the guidebook along and the plan was changed by Rob en route to Arthurs Pass.

One of the advantages of the Waimakariri Col trip was the conveniently placed huts, which meant we could leave the tent behind in the car, so we had nice light packs as we began our walk up the braided river at 2 o'clock. About the halfway point, in lovely sunshine two paradise geese swooped past and glided along the river. I stopped to watch and thought to myself, "It's great to be alive and tramping in the mountains!" Rob pointed out that the estimated time to Carrington Hut was about the length of one of the Lord of the Rings movies (hmmm...) and in due course, about the time Gollum and Frodo were wrestling over the possession of the One Ring, we reached our abode for the evening. The hut is quite large with two bunkrooms and at least 36 bunks, but the fire was smoky and difficult to keep going and the woodshed was empty.

Next day was a cruisy jaunt up to Waimakariri Falls Hut so we had a sleep-in, then foraged around for some logs to cut up for the woodpile. Around ten we made our way upriver, disturbing a pair of blue ducks on the way. The lower of the Waimakariri Falls were encountered as we made our way up the steepening slopes, and were quite an impressive sight in their narrow gorge. Further up, just before the hut, the stream is crossed by a suspension bridge at the mouth of a straight-sided narrow gorge. It was easier to cross the river than climb up to the bridge, but I imagine the flow would be quite forceful with spring melt water. We settled into the Canterbury Mountaineering Club hut (4 bunk) then headed off to the sunny slopes on the far side of the valley for a relaxing read.

The final day was ten hours by the guidebook estimation so an early start was decided on, starting the first stretch by headlight before seven. The sun still hadn't touched the frosty scree as we approached the head of the valley so the footing was treacherous and the rock climb to the snowfield a trifle intimidating. On good snow we kicked steps and made good time over the saddle to the left of the

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Col – the easier route. Hard, sweaty travel on steep scree and snow grass above the true left of the Rolleston River finally brought us to a nice spot on the bank for lunch before launching into the final stretch of ‘formed’ track. Ironically this proved to be the hardest going of the day, but necessary because of tight, gorgy sections at either end. It appears that no track work has been done since it was made and, coupled with copious regrowth and tree-fall, combined to make this the trail from hell (on second thought – that may be a little unfair on the devil!) And what better way to complete this smeggy riverbank crawl than a snarly stand of broom on the approach to the Otira rail bridge – lovely! A pedestrian stroll down a metal access road completed the days walk – nine hours.

Half an hour of hitching finally bore fruit (thank you, Ross and Sharon) and we were soon in the pub at Springfield with a well-deserved beer and a works burger that would have won accolades from Homer Simpson himself. Long drive – home by midnight – great weekend.

Kepler Track 5-7 May

This trip was originally proposed as a two day trip to complete the whole 67 km track. Like quite a few others I have done each end of the track but never the entire circuit, so this was a good opportunity to tick another trip off my “to do” list. I didn’t want to “bust a gut” by doing the two day option, so instead opted to take the Friday off work and do a 2.5 day trip. Fortunately there were 11 others like-minded, this being enough to take a separate van. We departed Dunedin at 8.30 am on Friday morning bound for Te Anau, and had a pretty uneventful trip. We didn’t actually start walking until around 2.30 pm that afternoon. Checking in at DoC, paying the camping ground fees for the other parties following for the two day option, and arranging a taxi shuttle so we didn’t have to leave the van at the Floodgates, all took extra time.

Our aim was to spend Friday night at Luxmore Hut, which is about a four hour tramp, and the last of our group would have arrived at about 5.30 to 6.00 pm, so overall the timing was pretty good. Not much to say about the track. It is wide flat and relatively easy as one would expect from a great walk. The climb up to Luxmore Hut is a bit of a grind and seemed to take forever to get out of the bush,

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particularly with all the zig zags in the track. I always find it a relief when you get above the bush line as the tramping becomes more interesting, probably because of the views.

Day two saw us have a bit of a lie in and back on the track at about 9.00 am. This day is definitely the best part of the tramp, with most of the time spent above the bush line and great views and photo opportunities. There were plenty of other people on the track, most of whom were tourists, and it was interesting to have a chat and see where they were from. The 20 or so minute climb to the trig on top of Mt Luxmore is certainly worth the effort and it was good to dawdle on the top taking a few photos and admiring the view.

Lunch stop was at the emergency shelter where we shared some light banter with a group of our foreign friends. From our lunch stop time seemed to fly as we ate up the track running downwards along a ridgeline. In no time at all we were back in the bush and our knees telling us we were heading back into a valley. Funny how time drags when one gets back into the bush. The boredom however was broken with good conversation and before long we encountered a small group of OTMC-er's who had walked in to the Iris Burn Hut that day. They had time to spare and were wandering up the track to meet up with the two-dayers. Just before reaching Iris Burn Hut we took a short detour of about 20 minutes to have a look at the waterfall.

That night all the OTMC parties met up at the Iris Burn Hut. It was a bit of a social event being Anthony P's birthday. One of the things I really enjoy about the OTMC is the social atmosphere that always prevails and it was great to relax around the hut, have a quiet gin and a few laughs as well.

Day three was nothing really special with a gentle, but long downhill tramp to reach Rainbows End and the van. I took some time out to just sit on a secluded beach and enjoy a little bit of solitude watching some ducks paddling on a gentle Lake Manapouri. Unfortunately after about 5 minutes a couple of Bl...y sand flies found me and seemed to call in their mates for reinforcement. At that point it was time to don the pack and start moving again. About 10 minutes further on I was startled by a great white OTMC-er emerging in all his naked glory from the waters of Lake Manapouri. In sheer fright I ran the last kilometer or so to the lunch stop at Motarau Hut.

Overall it was a good weekend and I can now say "been there, done that". The best day is the middle one, which is spent meandering over the tops. Out of 10, I would rate the tramp as only a 5, but as with all club trips, the company was good and we all had a great time.

Greg Powell for Trish Saunders, Jill McAliece, Harry Griffiths, Gary Moss and George Kemmet.

Gillespie Pass

Queen's Birthday Weekend

3 June

After an early departure from Dunedin and a tea stop at the Pie Cart in Alexandra, we arrived at Makarora in light rain on Friday night, ahead of the 'Red Team' who had to wait for Dave M. to arrive off an Auckland Flight. In fact we'd had our late night cuppa and were tucked up in bed by the time they arrived. (Coincidentally, members of each team had either red or blue jackets – not planned, honest!).

It was still drizzling next morning when we met up with 'Chopper' the jet boat driver and headed for the Young River mouth. Unfortunately the drizzle turned to rain after an hour or so and raincoats were reluctantly pulled from packs. What happened to the good Saturday forecast?! This was supposed to be our best day, with deteriorating conditions and snow predicted for Sunday.

The Young Valley is a relatively flat three hour walk to the junction where a very welcome day shelter is situated to the right after the swing bridge is crossed, about two minutes away. Good campsites are to be found here as well. We huddled under the shelter and ate lunch, enjoying a brew and hot soup.

The track gets a little rougher from here and climbs steadily, even steeply in sections to the new Young Hut, which surprised us by being about 1-1.5 hours down valley from the old one, and set in bush, (4 hours).

The fire proved an effort to light, but Dave C. brought his pyromaniacal skills to the fore and despite wet wood soon had it roaring. The hut is devoid of any form of clothesline inside so Pam went to work with a few nails she found and, after tying her bootlaces together, soon had enough line for our wet clothes. By tea time the fire had a decided red glow to it but held up and didn't melt into the floor.

Saturday was no better and we headed for the pass and into the snow. There is no sign of the old hut now, only a track heading towards the site. A steady climb from this side saw us quickly into the first skiff of snow, with the drizzle easing off and only the odd flake falling. Luckily there was no wind as snack-stops were cold enough without it. The steep climb saw us on the pass in ankle to calf-deep snow and ice axes came out. Good powder allowed us to move without crampons, but care was needed down the Siberia side with a light layer of snow on rocks and snow tussock. Once we left the snow we made good time down to the

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bottom end of the tussock and into the bush.

General consensus had been to snack instead of stopping for lunch and a longer stop was made when we hit the stream, where some opted to attack something a little more filling. We could see the Siberia Valley but it seemed a long time before we arrived at the confluence. The track down this section is obvious due to it's high usage, as is the rest of the track, and I saw a huge difference since I was last here about 1994.

Allan cheered us up by saying the hut was only about 10 minutes from the junction, but after about an hour he was fielding a good share of light-hearted abuse for his error in judgement. Those of us that hadn't bothered with lunch were very pleased to see it and a brew was very welcome.

Only two others were in the hut and it was good to arrive to a roaring fire and a warm hut. Clotheslines were installed here so once again we could look forward to dry gear next day.

We woke to a good frost and clear skies. Finally our photos would look a little more appealing. The 'Blue Team' set off about 10.15 am with plans to loiter and have lunch while waiting for the jet boat, which was picking us up just below Kerrin Forks. The others planned to leave about 11am.

Just past the hut we looked back to see the sun rising behind a gut in the mountains beside the pass, making an amazing inverted triangular glow in the sky. The lack of photos was made up for here as we made the most of the snowy tops around us poking out into the sun.

This section of track is reminiscent of the Routeburn and Kepler and obviously formed by heavy machinery rather than tramping boots! A sign of tourism but admittedly it makes for pleasant walking and allows for a good look around rather than having to watch the ground. The sun coming through the bush was very pleasant after two wet days.

The others soon caught us and we carried on to the pick up point for lunch. Unfortunately this side of the valley doesn't see the sun at this time of the year and even with a brew on board we were cold and very pleased to see the jet boat when it arrived. We were then to find out how cold it could *really* get after a hugely exhilarating 30-minute ride back to Makarora.

The 'Red Team' (Ralph Harvey, Dave McArthur and his overseas student Lena, and Pam McKelvey) hit the road while the 'Blue Team' (Allan Perry, Dave Chambers and I) spoil themselves with hot showers first.

Thanks guys for a great weekend.

Sharon St. Clair - Newman

Trip list

CHIEF GUIDE COMMENT

Snowcraft I
26 – 27 August
Matt Corbett 487 6595

The OTMC snowcraft weekend is designed as a basic introduction to travelling on snow and the use of iceaxe and crampons. All trampers who venture out into the hills over the winter months should have the basic concept of iceaxe use well practised – controlling an unplanned slide by self arresting is the only way to stop your descent. This weekend will concentrate mainly on travelling on snow, and how to use an iceaxe effectively. Conditions allowing, crampon use will also be covered and practised. At this stage the location for the course has not been decided (as I write this, anywhere in North Otago/South Canterbury would be suitable) but we will generally try for a skifield which gives good access to the snow.

There will be a theory evening meeting prior to the weekend.

Makarora Region M/C
2 – 3 September
Philip Somerville 473 8862

Spring time in the Makarora Region will limit some options but it is still a worthwhile area to visit. This trip will be concentrating on the valleys accessible from the main highway. Camerons Creek departs the highway and heads in a south east direction to a hut near a flat. The Makarora Valley upstream of the highway bridge is not visited often by the club, but there is a charming hut near it's head – be aware though that this track may not be in the best order and it may take longer than the marked time (take a tent in

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case?). Further up the road is Fantail Falls, and more importantly the track climbing above Fantail Creek leading to Brewster Biv (Hut). From here it is possible to climb Mt. Armstrong, or conditions and experience allowing, the higher Mt. Brewster. Near the Gates of Haast is (to this writer anyway) one of the nicer Makarora Valleys (although it is part of the Haast catchment) – the Wills. This valley has an impressive gorge that the track struggles to overcome but opens out into a large flat. A great weekend trip. The trip list will close on AGM night, the 24th of August

**Cass / Lagoon Saddle
(Craigieburn Conservation Park) (All)
16 – 17 September
Dave Chambers 454 3857**

This is a new destination for an OTMC trip card and is a fantastic location. A group from the club did the Cass / Lagoon Saddle trip as a through trip last September and thoroughly enjoyed it. Situated just out of the Arthurs Pass National Park, this trip has a lot to offer. The entire trip up the Cass, down to Hamilton Hut via the Hamilton River and then over Lagoon Saddle, would be graded as a fit trip by our standards with two longish days, but it is probably the best way to enjoy this trip. For other grades there are two options. The first is to travel up the Cass and camp in the vicinity of Cass Saddle Hut (3 or 4 bunks from memory). From here it is a nice wander up to the saddle. This valley in particular is very reminiscent of the Maitland (Ohau) – patchy beech and lots of erosion.

The second option is to go in the other end and make for hut and shelter near Lagoon Saddle itself. This option has more climbing, hence the views over the adjacent national park - the Waimakiriri and Klondyke Corner are very panoramic. Take note, though, that this end of the track is quite boggy. The through trip itself has a logical stopping place at Hamilton Hut, which breaks the days up evenly. The small lake near Hamilton Hut (marked on the map as 842m) is a recommended short detour. There are photos of this trip on the OTMC website, under 2005 trips.

The trip list will close on September 7.



I did all the people I go tramping with a favour the other day – I went on a refresher first aid course. When you think about it, it's a qualification that I'll never benefit from. So what do you do when the only person in your party who's done a course is the one that's just broken a leg? If you haven't done a first aid course, or if it's been a while, isn't it time you did all your fellow trampers a favour? And although a St John or Red Cross course is good, for a course that's both fun and relevant you can't go past the MSC Outdoor First Aid one.

David Barnes

(Ask around and see if others are interested - MSC's phone number and email address are in the phone book. Ed.)



Committee Members 2005-2006

President	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
Vice President	Barry Atkinson	487 7820
Secretary	Heather Deason	467 2252
Treasurer	Ann Burton	476 2360
Imm. Past Pres	Terry Casey	454 4592
Chief Guide/Bushcraft	Antony Pettinger	473 7924
Membership Secretary	Ian Sime	453 6185
Gear Hire	Greg Powell	454 4828
Daytrip Convenor	Cathy McKersey	455 0994
Funding	Greg Powell	454 4828
Publicity/Library	Wolfgang Gerber	453 1155
Social Convenor	Fiona Webster	487 8176
Clubrooms Officer	Terry Casey	454 4592
Committee	Allan Perry	487 7237
Committee	Dave Chambers	454 3857
Committee	Alan Thomson	455 7878
(outside committee)		
Bulletin Editor	Robyn Bell	488 2420
Conservation/Advocacy	David Barnes	454 4492
SAR Contact	Teresa Wasilewska	477 4987

Contributions (limit of 1000 words) are welcome for the September Bulletin, deadline is 18/8/06, publication 28/8/06. You can submit material on floppy disc (PC not Mac please); email 'rbell@pooka.otago.ac.nz' or 'rebell@xtra.co.nz'; or post to Robyn Bell, 8 Roy Crescent, Concord, Dunedin. Thanks.

DAYTRIPS

Ship at Anchor (M) 6 August

We'll be heading up the Eldorado track past the Deep Stream Hydro project and then climbing to Ship at Anchor. Altitude is 940 metres so be prepared for extreme conditions as this is a very exposed area. Also be prepared for some great views to the east.

Contact: Alan Thomson 455 7878

The Remarkable Rock (E) (Inland Catlins) 13 August

From Balclutha we travel on back roads which used to be part of the main route to the Catlins, and up the Puerua Valley, then walk across farm land and tracks to this large outcrop with a vertical north face. It can be climbed from end to end. Return trip by other little-known roads via Kaka Point for optional salt water paddle and ice cream. Carpool cost \$15.

If the weather is bad we will go anyway, but drive over more country roads instead of walking. Map Series 260, G46 Clinton, 455213

Leader: Ian Sime 453 6185

Burns Saddle/Possum Hut/Swampy (M-F) 20 August

This is a great mid-winter blast - almost a round trip and with not too much driving. We'll start from Leith Saddle, go through the Burns Saddle to Hightop and down Eucalypt Spur to Possum Hut (lunch?). From there it's

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a short grunt on the way to the Green Hut site, back to Hightop, and then (if we're keen) over Swampy and down the Leith Saddle boardwalk; or, if we're not, back to Burns Saddle and down Rustlers' Ridge.

David Barnes 454 4492

Skyline track (M)

27 August

NOTE: Date changed from trip card

We will be walking the 'Cloud Forests of Leith' section of the Skyline track. This runs between Leith Saddle and the top of Mount Cargill, and is unique for something so close to Dunedin in that it is designed to take the most interesting route, giving a similar back country or 'tactile' experience to what you might get on a more isolated track.

Some sections have been boardwalked, but adequate footwear is essential, and gaiters are a good idea. Trip cost is \$3, contact me for more details.

Leader: Roy Ward 473 9518

GPS Familiarisation Exercise (All)

3 September

Handheld GPS are becoming more affordable and more frequently used by people in the outdoors - tramping, boating, deerhunting and Search and Rescue. The plan for this instructional day is to spend a brief time in the Clubrooms becoming familiar with Garmin handheld sets (we plan to have one to each 2 or 3 people) and then go out to do a practical (FUN!) exercise on Flagstaff. Bring your sense of humour, lunch, and a map to cover Flagstaff. (A compass is optional and would be helpful.) If you have your own GPS, bring this along - the focus will be on Garmin, but much of the information is transferable.

For further info, contact Teresa Wasilewska 477 4987