

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

**The OTMTC meets socially at 3 Young Street
every Thursday - doors open at 7.30pm,
programme begins at 8.00pm.**

2 Feb

This is Waitangi Weekend, so enjoy your Routeburn/Rockburn or Greenstone/Caples trips (it's not very often you get the choice of TWO destinations!), or however else you decide to enjoy the long weekend. Just don't turn up at clubnight, because no-one else will be there!

9 Feb

"Sun and Snow" will show us their range of clothing and other outdoor wares

16 Feb

B.Y.O. - bring 'em and show 'em!

23 Feb

Aaron Whitehead will talk about his adventures trekking in Nepal

2 March

Harry Griffiths will talk about his travels through the Italian Via Serrata and the Dolomites

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.

P
R
E
S
I
D
E
N
T
S
P
I
E
C
E

Welcome to the OTMC for 2006 – doesn't the holiday season seem short?

The early part of the calendar year is normally the most active time for the club and this year is no different. By the time you read this the first weekend trip for the year will have been completed, with plenty more to come. There are definitely trips for everyone available, from the Rockburn and Maitland in February to the rarely visited Green Lake in March. Day trips also continue to run every Sunday so there is no excuse not to tramp with the OTMC.

February/March is also the time of our annual Bushcraft course, an introductory course on basic tramping skills which forms part of the OTMC's contribution to the community and mountain safety. Please see the piece further in this Bulletin to see how you can help with this year's course.

It was interesting to see over the holiday break a new concept for the Queenstown – Milford link by way of a tunnel more or less under the Routeburn Track. An older proposal also raised its head – the Greenstone Road. If you add the monorail and the gondola plans, this means that there are now four proposals to increase capacity and shorten the travelling time from Queenstown to Milford Sound. All of these proposals will impact on the tramping areas in some way. The most recent article in the paper about the Greenstone Road quotes the promoter as saying a road up the true right of the Greenstone will not impact trampers on the existing true left track. (Alongside Lake McKellar both road and track will probably end up on the same side). True, you may not see much of the road, but the narrowest point of the valley is less than 200m wide. Puts a new perspective on getting away from it all! I guess the proposed road will pass over the Greenstone Saddle and right past Howden Hut. What do you guys think about these proposals? – put pen to paper and let us know via the Bulletin.

Newer members might not be aware that the OTMC is very active in commenting on all these proposals (at times our opinion is sought by the likes of DoC). It is because of the good work carried out by organisations like the OTMC we can enjoy the public access we do today, including the ability to freedom walk the Milford Track. If you have an interest in becoming involved in access issues and protecting the public lands we all enjoy, talk to a committee member. If this is not your cup of tea we would still like to know what members think about proposals like the Milford link so we can best represent your views.

Until next time,
Antony Pettinger

Membership

A **very** quiet month; no members joined or resigned.

Moves this month

Chris Pearson & Kathy Woodrow to 5322 Whitetail Dr, Apt 9, Springfield, IL 62703, USA; Wendy Buchanan's phone is now 473-0596.

Subs

This month five people have decided not to renew their subs: James Macdonald, Ann Mulryne, Maggie Pasek, Wayne Smith and Alex Young. But the good news is that only three others have still to pay.

Ian Sime,
Membership Secretary

P.S. I have included a membership list, since there is no current "Outdoors" magazine to contain one!

SnowCave Inn, by Ged Maybury

Reading this little book was a slightly surreal experience for me. It's a fictionalised account based largely on the author's experiences in a group of teenagers on an OTMC snowcaving trip in the late 70s. My first club trip was snowcaving in 1980, and the party was largely teenaged. The location, the gear, the attitudes, decisions over where to build a cave – all were refreshingly familiar. Yet to start with the writing didn't exactly enthral me. This book isn't likely to get the Boardman-Tasker prize. I couldn't decide whether Maybury was writing for a teenage audience and thus writing as a teenager, or if that was as good as it gets. However, as events took the inevitable turn for the worse, my attention was captured. While I hope the adversity encountered was not a reflection of an actual OTMC trip, the description had a sense of immediacy, and was instantly believable. As so often with disaster in the hills (or elsewhere), the cause is not singular but rather comes from an accumulation of mistakes and bad luck, and this tale is no exception.

This book contains a useful cautionary tale for those embarking on a life in the hills, and is an intriguing reminiscence for those of us with long memories. Copies are available from the club for \$12 (plus 90c postage if you don't pick it up in person). Profits are split between the Club and the Himalayan Trust.

David Barnes

Trip Reports

MAKARORA

1-2 OCTOBER 2005

On our arrival at Makarora early Saturday the weather, although windy, was clear. Travelling in the jet boat at speed we could see the Makarora and Wilkin Rivers were low and many possible crossing spots were sighted and pointed out for our return journey in a couple of days. The walk into Siberia Valley from Kerin Forks started off fine, but by the time we reached the hut the rain had started and was coming straight down.

After lunching at the hut, cabin fever had taken hold and myself and Kerryn Woods could take it no longer; donning already wet coats, hats etc we splashed our way along Siberia Valley in strong winds and pelting rain. Having crossed and returned over the Siberia Stream it looked doubtful with the rain still pouring down that we would be crossing it tomorrow to visit Lake Crucible. The ever-cheerful Kerryn assured me tomorrow would be better and on our arrival back at Siberia Hut people were enjoying some dubious card/domino game that also involved something about a bus!! When the thunder and lightning started shortly after hitting the sack I just pulled the sleeping bag over my head and moaned.

SURPRISE!!!! The next day, although slightly drizzly, looked far improved and the Siberia Stream even looked to have dropped. After consulting with the group we decided we would test the waters and have a look. Crossing the stream was no real problem and the weather kept improving. The track up to Lake Crucible carries on up beside a waterfall with lots of hand over hand which made for slow progress, but once up into the basin it was easy going. On our arrival we found Lake Crucible completely frozen over so no icebergs, but still awe inspiring as so often this country is. Add to this the occasional cry of a lone kea and the rumbling and display of the avalanches, not to mention the views, and it makes all the effort worth while. Unfortunately

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

we had to leave as we wanted to walk out all the way to Kerin Forks to our stashed tents so as to make the following day easier.

At Kerin Forks we pitched our tents under some beech trees beside the Wilkin River, and after a well earned tea we swapped tall stories and exchanged light signals with hunters staying at the Kerin Forks hut. Next day we walked out along the Wilkin, which we crossed twice so as to avoid the hillier true right, and again the Makarora, which was about crutch height (just enough to change the voice). Unfortunately we never did see the farmer with the unimog which sometimes picks up trampers and transports them over the Makarora.

So in all it ended up not a bad tramp and a big thanks to those in the group. It was a real team effort in choosing the right spots for crossing

JACKSONS BAY 5-6 NOVEMBER 2005

This is a really neat place to visit *provided* it isn't raining. It is quite a hike from Dunedin with about 6 hours traveling by vehicle, but worth taking some time off work to travel during daylight hours.

Friday night we camped on Jackson Road, which is the right fork in the road just past the Arawhata River Bridge. I had some business to complete in Central Otago so I travelled alone and arrived during daylight to seek out a suitable camp site for that evening. There are some nice grassy spots, but because of the torrential rain most were pretty well water logged. However I did manage to locate a spot about five minutes up the road which was gravelly and therefore well draining. I put up a fly for the rest of my party who were about one to two hours behind me, but got soaked in doing this so decided I would sleep on the back seat of my car. I was also concerned that anchoring the fly with tent pegs in gravel wasn't the most secure way of doing things. Fortunately they held up through some pretty heavy rain and our party had a reasonably dry night.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

There was light drizzle on Sat morning, but by 10 o'clock or so the clouds cleared, and the weather improved as the weekend went on. We parked our vehicles at the DoC shelter as there is more room and it is only about 10 minutes walk to the start of the track. I should mention at this point that even though there is a sign saying "No Camping", the shelter itself would have been a great place to bed down for the night, being drier than in a fly and not as cramped as the back seat of my car.

The initial part of the track is an old road that was originally built when 20 farming families attempted to establish farms alongside the Smoothwater River. Fortunately for us trampers the swampy soils and the remote location saw all the families gone within two years, leaving the area in an unspoiled natural state. This part of the track is well marked and leads to the beautiful Smoothwater River. At this point you have the option of turning right and following the river to Smoothwater Bay (a nice day walk) or, as we did, turning right and follow the river to the next marker where Kakapo Creek joins the Smoothwater. The map shows the track on the true left of the creek but we seemed to make numerous crossing. I think Anthony (webbed feet Pettinger) was leading. Once leaving Kakapo Creek the marked route takes you on a short climb to the Stafford Saddle at 243m.

Once down from the saddle it is a matter of following a delightful little creek that feeds into the Stafford River, then following the Stafford down just over a km to the Stafford Hut. As the hut is on the true left of the river a crossing does need to be made, and while this was not a problem for us, it could well prove difficult in rainy conditions. The hut is comfortable (sleeps six), and has an open fire as well as some very risqué reading matter. After exploring around the hut and noting the remains of an old tractor, we moved downstream, re-crossed the river and set up our flys on the beach with the usual infestation of sand flies. Dinner consisted of pumpkin soup, venison with stir-fry and home baking. Then with this out of the way a roaring fire was lit from the ample supply of dry wood on the beach. This reminded me that it was Guy Fawkes night and, what a shame, no-one had thought to bring fireworks. It would have been a safe and pleasant spot to enjoy a display, however we had to make do with the occasional shower of sparks as more wood was thrown onto the fire.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Sunday dawned fine and clear with a light dew. The plan for day two was to return back to Smoothwater via the coastline. This was a complete change of scenery from the bush walking the previous day. There were a couple of points where we needed to venture back into the bush to climb over a spur, but most of the time was spent clambering over rocks or trudging through sand. Not a lot of wildlife present but we did manage to spot a penguin before it scurried into a rock hole.

There was one little spot that turned out to be something of an adventure with everyone getting wet from the neck or chest down (depending on one's height). Just before Smoothwater Bay there is a small bluff and you need to drop into the sea to pick your way around it. We reached it about 1 ½ - 2 hours after low tide and I don't think I would have wanted to wait too much longer before attempting it. It was great to see the parties helping each other and hats off to Pete Stevenson who crossed first, dropped his pack and returned to act as an anchor in the water in case anyone was plucked from the face by the outgoing waves.

Smoothwater Bay is a delightful spot and we decided to halt here for lunch and dry ourselves out in the sun. It was such a fine day that this didn't take long, however we had plenty of time so it was great just to lie around and laze in the sun. The Smoothwater is a really picturesque river and easy to cross. Rather than follow the bush track up-river we chose to follow the river and enjoy the sunshine. Eventually the river led us to the initial track that we had taken on the way in.

One group learnt the reason why it is important to keep your party together, when they left one of their party behind by dropping into the river without making sure all the party knew what was going on. The result was that one party member became separated, and thinking one of his party was still behind him, rightly stopped and waited. This caused a delay of ¾ of an hour at the end of the trip. Our group was preparing to put our wet boots back on and go looking when the missing member appeared out of the bush.

I recommend this area for an easy weekend tramp, however be warned that the weather could make or break the enjoyment of the trip.

Greg Powell for Pete Stevenson, Anthony Pettinger, Barry Atkinson and Ann Burton.

Spiers Road - Davies Track

20 November 05

This trip has become a bit of an annual thing, to coincide with the regular picnic of the Ben Rudd's Trust. This year, though, the Trust decided against having a picnic, but that didn't deter those who turned up. Nine of us enjoyed a quiet walk over Flagstaff and a long lunch at Ben Rudd's hut. It was a nice warm day, but for some reason it got cool enough at the hut for us to do a bit of broom-clearing and just go home early. Nobody wanted hard enough to see the Rhododendron Dell. Fine, fine!

The Davies Track, as always, is a real pleasure to walk. Thanks, Tracy for finding it. The native bush smelt lovely in the warm, damp air. It's still not a highway, so it tested Rosa and Naomi's routefinding a bit. There's no litter. Just nice bush. Let's hope it stays that way.

Thanks for coming along everyone. I thanked Gavin for the use of his car by putting on a beer for him in our garden at home that afternoon – a fitting end to a great day.

Richard Pettinger, for Tracy and Rosa Pettinger, Naomi Peacock, Bill Richardson, Gavin and Janet McArthur, Judy Wilson and Bruce Johnston.

KAKANUI PEAK

11 December 05

We set off under low cloud and into drizzle over the northern motorway, the optimists amongst us predicting much better weather inland. By the time we reached the Pigroot the sun was out and prospects for fine weather were much improved, until just before the summit when particularly menacing black clouds come into view.

The turn off we had to find was virtually invisible heading inland, so we chose to continue until it was absolutely certain we had passed it and then turn around and look very carefully for the minor 4WD track we would park on. This proved quite simple as Rob, David and Paul were now there, stand-

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

ing by their car gesticulating wildly.

We set off in bright sunshine, travelling up a fenceline in the general direction of a long ridge which leads to the cloud enveloped Kakanui Peak, the first section was through tussock and matagouri leading to a rocky 4WD / bulldozer track. Good progress was achieved and we were soon able to look down on the valley floor and road well below. The drizzle and wind arrived, however we were heartened to see the ridge and valley we intended to come down were in full sunshine.

Lunch break was called just before noon, in the lee of a rock outcrop, during which the drizzle turned into rain, out came the jackets and off we went into the gloom. The next point of interest in the ascent was a couple of old sheds which had been part of a rudimentary ski field many years ago, the rope tow was still in place complete with rope. We were already well acquainted with the wind, but the state of one of the sheds bore testament to its force, the roof was intact about 5 metres from the collapsed walls. The other shed was in reasonable order except for one missing window.

The climb continued (take note if you do not like long hills, this trip is certainly not for you) until the track levelled out. The rain was getting heavier, the wind stronger and the visibility less. At this point the wisdom of attempting to find the peak off track and then fulfil our plan of returning to the Pigroot by the chosen ridge (one of many available) was in question. We decided there was no point continuing as we were well acquainted with the inside of the cloud and prospects for its disappearance were almost nil.

Terry's ability to walk happily through driving rain dressed in a merino singlet and shorts, when every one else had jackets, hats, etc on was quite surprising; in fact anyone studying hypothermia ought to investigate his freakish ability to avoid the affliction in adverse conditions.

The descent was via the track until we got to the ski huts, where we turned off down another track into the valley we would have reached on our intended route. By this time the weather and visibility were much improved. We arrived back at the cars about 3pm marvelling at how utterly different the conditions were about 1000m higher, the grass where we parked was dry, and the sun shining.

In better weather this would be a great trip with excellent views, but take plenty of water as you will not find any enroute.

Many thanks to Rob for leading the trip.

Gordon Tocher for Rob Seeley, Terry Duffield, David Barnes, Paul Rijlaarsdam, Francis Gallagher and Joseph Donnelly

OTMC SILVERPEAKS MARATHON (FE)

25 FEBRUARY (SATURDAY)

It's that time of year again, that those of us who are interested in taking on a bit of a challenge need to start thinking about how fit we are. The OTMC Marathon is a tramp of 65 km through much of the Silverpeaks, including Flagstaff, with a "Half" option of 35 km.

Participants must have adequate fitness, equipment and be bushcraft competent. The route may be covered in fog, making navigation difficult. If this is your first time, you **MUST** know the route beforehand. I may be doing the odd extra trip into the Silverpeaks over the next month, so please contact me if you want to go over part of the route with me.

If you want to participate, but not take on that sort of challenge, it is something of a tradition to have some people at the Green Hut site, and preferably The Gap as well. Whether you want to do the full marathon, the half, or are interested in helping out at a checkpoint (which could be quite a pleasant day trip), I would welcome hearing from you.

The course is displayed on the clubroom wall. You must pass through the checkpoints listed below, but the route you travel between them is up to you. Grid references in brackets refer to topographical map NZMS 260 series, maps I44 & J44 (Dunedin).

1. Start at the Booth Road end of the Pineapple Track (149828)
2. Bullring, Whare Flat Road (119828)
3. A point between the White Hill Cairn and Powder Hill (075863)
4. Big Stream (055905)
5. Poplar Hut (060918)
6. Mt. John (678m) (076947)
7. The saddle south-west of the Gap (126976)
8. Along Rocky Ridge to the track adjacent to Pulpit Rock (116927)
9. Old Green Hut site (125918)
10. Swampy Summit (137873)
11. Back to the Pineapple track
12. Finish the Marathon at the Booth Road end of the Pineapple Track (149828).

The Half Marathon follows much of the same route, missing out points 4 through 7, and instead going between checkpoints 3 and 8 along Long Ridge.

The full Marathon starts at 4:30 am! The half Marathon may start later (*6 am the year I did it, Ed*), but you need to try to get out during daylight. Trip list closes 16 February.

Roy Ward 473 9518

TriplisT

CHIEF GUIDE COMMENT

Bushcraft 2006

The end of February sees the start of the OTMC's annual Bushcraft course, a course on tramping safety aimed at both beginners and those with some experience. Running the bushcraft course has become a very important and integral part of the OTMC, but it doesn't happen without the efforts of many people. To this end I am asking all members for their help with the 2006 course.

It's success depends on having a good number of participants, and to achieve this we need to advertise. Bushcraft has a very good reputation as a quality course and good value for money. If you can help advertise it at your work, your gym, amongst your family and friends etc. it will be greatly appreciated. There was an orange flyer with the December Bulletin, with more available at the clubrooms. The website also has copies of the flyer, and more information on the course plus a downloadable application form.

Bushcraft itself needs members to lead parties and assist in other ways. We have had a core of people over the years who continue to volunteer but new blood is always welcome. Particularly I am always looking for assistance with the practical compass course at Tirohanga, as well as party leaders (or co-leaders) for both Silver Peaks and the optional trip to the Eglinton. Please contact me on 473 7924 if you would like to help. Don't forget to get the word out about Bushcraft 2006!

Antony P
Bushcraft 2006 Director

(Continued from page 11)

Chief Guide

The weekend trips for 2005 ended well. The trip to East Matukituki was well attended, it was a pity the weather prevented an ascent of Dragonfly, but it was a very enjoyable trip. The Silver Peaks Tramp and Train was another good trip, although if you wanted views this trip was not for you. After losing six people after five minutes (don't believe what you hear – there were definitely no committee members involved!) we pushed up Powder Ridge and onto our camp in Cave Stream. The train ride on Sunday was a neat way to end the club weekend tramping year.

Now, onto the 2006 trips:.....

Green Lake (Borland Area) (All)

March 4/5

Peter Stevenson 454 4148

They say third time lucky, so this trip to Green Lake will be successful! After two previous attempts, Peter is taking us to Green Lake. Situated at the foot of the Hunter Mountains and to the west of the Monowai power scheme, this little lake sees OTMC people rather infrequently. The area must be becoming more popular as DoC are replacing the four-bunk Green Lake Hut with a larger structure. To reach Green Lake from Lake Monowai takes 4-6 hours, leaving time to explore further after arrival. Island Lake is close by, and is worth visiting. A round trip should be available by using the Borland Road (we should be able to get a vehicle some of the way in at this time of the year). Mt. Burns (1645m) would offer a great view point. It may be possible to head east from the Burns, down the ridge to a marked track that leads to the Borland Road. This would make a good (fitter) round trip. This weekend trip is suitable for all, the trip list will close on February 24.

(Continued on page 13)

Eglinton Valley (West Branch) (All)

March 25/26

Antony Pettinger 473 7924

We are headed for the Eglinton Valley, which is the main valley that drains the mountains between Te Anau Downs and the Divide. We will have drop off points right through to the eastern portal of the Homer Tunnel. There are trips available for all grades from “Easy” (3 to 5 hours tramping time per day) through to “Fitness Essential” (10+ hours tramping per day!)

This area offers some of the greatest areas for tramping in our area. There are options to get up high, visit picturesque lakes, or complete round trips over mountain passes. Here are some ideas:

- Base yourself at Homer Huts and day trip up to Gertrude Saddle. This is not usually a difficult trip in good conditions, and offers great views down to Milford Sound, and through to Mitre Peak. On the Sunday it is well worth climbing up to Homer Saddle above the tunnel. Again, this is not difficult.
- Day trip to Lake Marian one day, and on the other visit Key Summit and the start of the Routeburn Track.
- A classic round trip is Mistake Creek / Hut Creek via U Pass. U Pass is an alpine pass, and no specific climbing skills are required. A head for heights is handy for the one difficult section.
- If the weather is suitable, a traverse along the Livingstone Range is well worth the effort, with great views into the Greenstone and Eglinton Valleys, as well as the Darren Mountains and Mt. Christina.

Trip list closes March 16.

(Continued from page 16)

Te Papanui; Lammermoors/Lammerlaws Easy tramping + MTB option 5 March

We drive over Rocklands Station to the gate at the Park entrance, then travel through high tussock land along a 4WD track. You can see forever. Brian Patrick, the butterfly and moth specialist from our Museum, will be accompanying us, which will give a whole extra dimension to our day! (*Good score, Ian! Ed*)

Mountainbikers should be able to get right round the head of the Taieri River to Lammerlaw Top; trampers not so far. It's a "there and back" trip.

Ian Sime 453 6185

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	453 5875
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 March Bulletin, deadline is 16/02/06, publication 02/03/06. 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

Orbells Cave (M/F)

29 January

Meet at the clubrooms 9 am. Bring lots to drink as there isn't much there and it can get very hot. We drive towards Waikouaiti then head off towards Nenthorn at Cherry Farm. At the top of the hill after Bucklands Crossing we turn onto Blucher Road and drive most of the way along it. The walk goes up to a small pass along a 4WD track then down a ridge into the Three O'clock Stream valley. If time allows we'll go downstream to Fiddlers Gulley to see a ruin, then back up Orbells Creek to the caves. From the caves we climb up onto a ridge which we follow back up to the pass and back to the cars. The walk is across open farmland and there are some splendid views. We should be back before 5 o'clock. It's a moderate trip really. Car pool cost \$8
Leader - Bill Wilson 477 2282

Waitangi Weekend

2 February

No daytrip this weekend, since it's a long one and many people will be away on either of the club's 3 (or 4)day trips.

OTMC Family Picnic (E!)

12 February

Meet at the north end of Long Beach at 11 am. Bring family, friends, food and games. Like the end of year barbeque, this promises to be a great social occasion. See you there, don't forget the sunblock.

Leader - Cathy McKersey 455 0994

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

?? Mystery Trip ?? (E) **Feb 19**

These walks are not too far from town, a combination of tracks with coast/beach themes. Prize for the person who guesses where we are going, bring your answers before we start. It will take approx 4 hours, and the car pool cost is \$6.

Leader - Cathy McKersey 455 0994

OTMC Marathon (FE) **Saturday 25 Feb**

See inside on page 10 for full details

Leader - Roy Ward 473 9518

Millennium Track (E) **February 26**

As the Beaumont Millennium Track is actually a fairly good road these days, and not much fun for walking, we will explore a couple of other walks near the Clutha in the same general area. We will leave promptly at 9.00 am from the clubrooms for the 1 1/2 hour drive to Beaumont. The first walk will be on the west bank of the Clutha exploring downstream from McCunns Beach, hopefully to find a nice spot for lunch.

The second walk is a well formed track to the old miner's footbridge at Horseshoe bend. We can end the trip with a drive to the Lonely Graves and down the Millennium Track (follows the Beaumont to Millers Flat road and old Roxburgh railway line which was dismantled in 1968) to a great picnic spot (bring togs and towel if the forecast is good) for afternoon tea. We should be back in Dunedin from 6.00 pm. An alternative that may suit some is to take bikes along the Millennium Track. Car pool cost \$15.

Leader - Fieie Neuman, 471 9981

(Continued on page 14)