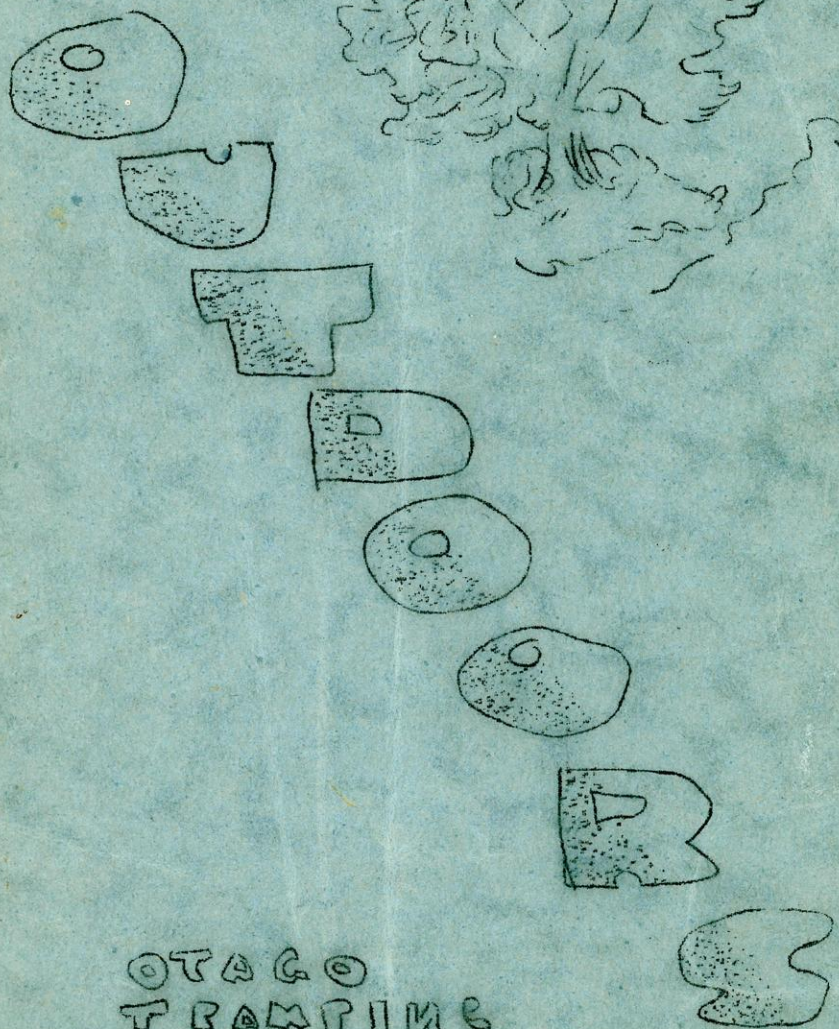


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Sept 1944



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"O U T D O O R S"
The Official Organ of
The Otago Tramping Club (Inc.).

September, 1944.

Vol. 11, No. 2.

Contributions for the next issue should be sent in by March 1st., and should be addressed to Mr. J. Niven, 34 Begg St., Dunedin, S.2.

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ANNUAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING of the Otago Tramping Club (Inc.) will be held in the Club Room, Stuart St., Dunedin, on WEDNESDAY, 27th. SEPTEMBER, 1944 at 8 p.m.

Business: Annual Report & Accounts.
 Election of Officers,
 General.

E. HUGHES,

September, 1944.

Hon. Secretary.

+++++

Club Room: Stuart St., Dunedin, 2 doors from
 Bath St., top floor. Open from
 7.45 p.m. on Fridays.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. E. Hughes,
 12 Sheen St., Roslyn, Dunedin.

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Christmas Camp:- Members are requested to come
 to the Annual Meeting prepared
to make suggestions for the next Christmas Trip.

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PERSONAL.

SECRETARY: Mr. E. Hughes has again been acting as Secretary so as to allow Mr. L. Butterfield more time for his University studies.

NEW MEMBERS: Misses P. Roberts, Buchanan, E. Wallace,
C. Wallace, V. Wallace, J. Meggett, N. McHugh, I. Stewart,

S. Sharky, S. Phelan, M. Murrow, D. Wilson, M. Hislop, H. Kennedy, M. Bamford, N. Woods, and M. Sutherland, and Messrs. J. Beveridge, H. Tilly, R. Markby, G. Christenson, and A. Hansen have been elected members of the Club since "Outdoors" was last issued. We welcome them to the Club and hope that they will enjoy our companionship and trips for many years to come.

MARRIAGE: We have the pleasure of recording the marriage of Mr. N. Bonswell, to Miss. M. Forsyth. May they have a long and happy life.

BEREAVEMENT: We extend our sympathy to Miss. A. Hoseit who has lost a brother.

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THE MILFORD SOUND TRACK.

Descriptions of the Milford Sound Track usually deal with the beautiful vegetation and views to be found there, but, as everyone who goes on the trip must walk it, the surface of the track becomes a very important consideration. This account deals with the surface of the track.

The first section of the track from Lake Te Anau to the Hostel may be likened to a short country road through bush land.

The second section, from the Hostel to the first "Hut", runs through a grass paddock to the Clinton River over which the visitor is ferried to the track on the other side. This section for many miles has only a slight grade and is fairly wide and flat, with a smooth surface. Side drains prevent the track from becoming a watercourse and the good surface remains good usually. Near the hut end there are slight rises and falls and some big stones on the track. Visitors who do not go past this section may get the impression that the whole track is as good as this section.

The third section, is from the first "hut" and over the pass to the second "hut". Though there are some flattish sections, most of the track is more or less steep, and the heavy rain and melted snow use the

(cont. P. 11)

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Executive has pleasure in presenting the 21st. Annual Report together with Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st August 1944.

MEMBERSHIP: The membership has shown an increase of 31 during the year, the number on the roll being now 153, which includes 9 Life Members, 22 members on Active Service Overseas and 10 in camp in New Zealand.

FINANCE: Considering the numbers of members serving in the Armed Forces, the Club financial position shows a satisfactory improvement.

TRIPS: A very enjoyable Christmas trip to Paradise was had by some 14 members. Various trips were made to Dart and Rees Valley and surrounding country by different parties.

Owing to unfavourable weather conditions the Easter trip to Kakanui had to be abandoned at the last minute.

The day trips have been better attended and during the coming season an improvement is desired.

CLUB ROOM: During the year the Club room received the support of members and has improved the Social life of the Club.

SOLDIERS' PARCELS: During the year a number of socials were held, the proceeds being devoted to the Parcels Fund. The amount of £63.3.6. has been raised since the Fund was opened. During the period a number of parcels have been despatched.

A feature of the Social Evenings were Films shown by Scott Gilkison, Paul Reno in feats of magic and conjuring and a mock Court.

ANNIVERSARY: The 21st Birthday of the Club was celebrated at the Highcliff Cafe on 2nd. September. There was an attendance of some 75 members, past and present. Miss Edmond had kindly decorated the cake with 21 miniature trampers.

THE OTAGO TRAMPINGSTATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAY-Receipts.Balance as at 31.8.43.

Cash in hand	2.14 . :	
Cash in Bank	<u>54 12 8</u>	57 6 8
Subscriptions & Donations		33 . .
Advertising in "Outdoors"		2 10 .
Interest (Dunedin Savings Bank)		1 7 3
Receipts Christmas Trip 1943		104 8 7
Receipts Club Room		21 8 .
Refund Telephone Rental		2 18 6
Hut Fees		. 5 .
Stamps on Hand		. 1 1

£223 5 1

BALANCELiabilities

Subscriptions paid in advance	1 10 .
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	87 14 2

£89 4 2

Audited & Found correct

E. W. HUNTER,

Hon. Auditor.3rd. September, 1944.

MENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST, 1944.

"Outdoors"	12	1	11
Postages	2	.	2
Stationery & Sundries	1	15	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Advertising	1	11	2
Expenses Annual Meeting 1943	.	14	.
Subscriptions to other Clubs	2	10	.
Telephone Toll Calls	.	7	8
Insurance	.	6	.
Expenses Club Room	18	2	$\frac{1}{2}$
Expenses Christmas Trip 1943	104	8	7
Framing Panorama	1	5	.
Axe	.	19	.
Balance at 31.8.44			

Cash in Hand	13 14 3	
Cash in Bank	<u>63 9 11</u>	77 4 2
		<u>£223 5 1</u>

Cash in Hand	13	14	3
Cash in Dunedin Savings Bank	63	9	11
Subscriptions due but not paid	7	.	.
Club Property	5	.	.
	<u>£89</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

E. A. J. HUGHES.

Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.

PROGRAMME FROM OCTOBER, 1944, to MARCH, 1945.

DATE. 1944

TRIP.

LEADER.

Sun. Oct. 1	Boulder Hill - Waironga : Wakari, 9 a.m.	Mr. R. B. Hamel.
Sat. 7	Flagstaff via Taieri Rd.: Kaikorai Term, 2.15 p.m.	Mr. A. Newton.
Sun. 8	Chain Hills : Kaikorai Terminus, 9.30 a.m.	Miss E. Wilson.
Sat. 14	Saddle Hill : 1.30 p.m. bus to Fairfield	Mrs. Thynne
Sun. 15	Mystery Trip: Wakari, 9 a.m.	Mr. J. Freeman
Sat. 21	Wingatui Road : Kaikorai Terminus, 2.15 p.m.	Mr. Thompson
Sun. 22	Ben Rudd's - Sanatorium: Duke St., 9.30 a.m.	Miss J. Meggett
Sat. 28	Organ Pipes : Normanby terminus, 2.15 p.m.	Miss R. Beck.
Sun. 29	Silver Peaks : Duke St., 9 a.m.	Miss J. Beattie
Sat. Nov. 4	McQuilkan's & Waterfall : Kaikoria Term. 2.15 p.m.	Miss Tweedy
Sun. 5	Cliffs - Blackhead - Green Island : St. Clair term 10 a.m.	Mr. N. Bonsell.
Sat. 11	Flagstaff via Kuaka Rd.: Kaikorai Term. 2.15 p.m.	Mrs. P. Moore
Sun. 12	Pigeon Flat-Weatherstone's Creek: Duke St. 9.30 a.m.	Mr. J. Tucker
Sat. 18	Signal Hill & Brown House: Opcho Term. 2.15 p.m.	Miss N. Buswell
Sun. 19	Mihiwaka : 9.20 bus to Port Chalmers.	Miss A. Edmond
Sat. 25	Nicholl's Creek : Duke St., 2.15 p.m.	Miss V. Tucker
Sun. 26	Victory Beach : 10 a.m. bus to Portobello	Miss N. Buswell
Sat. Dec. 2	Sullivan's Dam : Duke St. 2.15 p.m.	Miss H. Donaldson
Sun. 3	Leith Valley - Swampy : Duke St. 9.30 a.m.	Mr. F. Dunn
Sat. 9	Green Island Beach : St. Clair term. 2.15 p.m.	Miss M. Parkhill
Sun. 10	Pyramid Hut via Donald Reid's : Kaik. term. 8.30	Mr. L. Butterfield.
Sat. 16	Flagstaff via Pineapple Track : Duke St., 2.15 p.m.	Miss N. McHugh
Sun. 17	Club Hut : Wakari, 9 a.m.	Mr. E. Hughes

Sat. 23	} Christmas Trip to be discussed at Annual Meeting.	
Sun. 24		
Mon.	} McIntyres - Craiglowan Falls: Kaik. Term. 9.30 (Alternative)	
Sat. Jan. 6	Sandfly Beach : 2 p.m. Macandrew Bay bus	Mrs. Marriott
Sun. 7	Lake Whare : Wakari, 9.30 a.m.	Mr. G. Arras
Sat. 13	Pine Hill : George St. Bridge, 2.15 p.m.	Miss M. Roberts
Sun. 14	Mt. Cargill - Organ Pipes : Duke St. 9.30	Mr. H. Donaldson
Sat. 20	Harbour Cone : 2 p.m. bus to Portobello	Miss Stewart
Sun. 21	Mystery Trip : Kaikorai terminus, 9 a.m.	Mr. J. Hermiston
Sat. 27	Ocean Beach & Tomahawk Beach : St. Kilda term. 2.15.	Miss D. Jack
Sun. 28	Purakanui : 9.20 bus to Port Chalmers.	Miss A. McFarland
Sat. Feb. 3	Mt. Cargill via Pine Hill : Duke St., 2.15 p.m.	Miss R. Griffiths
Sun. 4	Boulder Hill - Mullocky Gully : Kaik. term. 8 a.m.	Mr. P. L. Moore
Sat. 10	Tunnel Beach : St. Clair terminus, 2.15 p.m.	Miss L. Williamson
Sun. 11	Pigeon Flat - Opossum Trail - Stone Hut: Duke St. 9 a.m.	Miss N. Lawrenson
Sat. 17	Pigeon Flat via Pine Hill Rd.: Duke St. 2.15 p.m.	Miss A. Edmond
Sun. 18	Pipikaretu Beach: 10 a.m. bus to Portobello	Miss N. Munro
Sat. 24	Smaill's Beach : Anderson's Bay terminus 2.15 p.m.	Miss Sharky
Sun. 25	Scrogg's Hill - Saddle Hill : 10 a.m. bus to Brighton.	Miss M. Parkhill
Sat. Mar. 3	Pine Hill via Leith Valley : Duke St., 2.15 p.m.	Mr. I. Sutherland
Sun. 4	Chalkies - Dodd's Gully : Wakari, 9.30 a.m.	Miss L. Williamson
Sat. 10	Abbott's Hill : Kaikorai terminus, 2.15 p.m.	Mr. J. Niven
Sun. 11	Mt. Charles - Harbour Cone : 10 a.m. bus to Portobello	Mrs. P. Moore
Sat. 17	Ross Creek Reservoir : Duke St., 2.15 p.m.	Miss C. White
Sun. 18	Leishmann's Falls : Wakari 9.0 a.m.	Miss L. Tweedy
Sat. 24	Tomahawk & Cliffs to Highcliff Cafe: Andersons B. Term. 2.15.	Miss N. Munro
Sun. 25	Red Hut : Wakari, 9.0 a.m.	Mr. H. Tilly
Sat. 31	Mount Grand : Kaikoria Terminus 2.15 p.m.	Miss Hardie.

VERIFY TRAIN AND BUS TIMES.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We would again express our appreciation for privilege received and would also thank those who permit us to cross their lands and use their huts.

We would also thank kindred Clubs for copies of their publications.

Finally we extend our thanks to those who assisted in the Club Room during the year and to the Editor of "Outdoors".

F. DUNN,
President.

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OUR TWENTY-FIRST.

At 8 p.m. on 2nd September, 1944, the O.T.C. celebrated its twenty-first Birthday by having a party at the Highcliff Cafe, and this was enthusiastically supported by members, old and new. Various means of transport were used to get to the rendezvous -- some serious minded even resorted to traditional tramping, but taxis and private cars were very popular.

The two rooms at the Club's disposal were soon buzzing with activity as dancing swung into action in one and card games were indulged in in another, and the time flew by to the tune of the music, the calling of numbers for housie-housie, and ejaculations from the Crazy Whist tables. Two earlier members for a time derived pleasure reliving some of their past excursions with the Club by perusing the Club Photo Albums. Proceedings were punctuated by the arrival of various couples, the collapse of quite a few piano keys, necessitating the use of the gramophone for dancing, and the playing of amusing games which drew loud laughter from all concerned - victims and onlookers.

No second invitation was needed for the 72 members to seat themselves at a goodly laden supper table, and in true tramping style gave the caterers no idle moments dashing to and fro with refills.

The cutting of the Birthday Cake, appropriately borne with twenty-one miniature trampers surrounding

the inevitable "boiling billy", was an important item on the programme, and Miss C. White ably carried out this honour with an apt and witty speech.

The President, at the close of his remarks, called upon Mr. C. Hayward to speak on behalf of the original members, and in a happy and amusing strain he regaled the company with incidents of the early life of the Club, much to the enjoyment of all. Mr. Hamel, long an active member, endorsing Mr. Hayward's remarks, told how the Club had its beginning, and these two speakers paid grateful tribute to the late Mr. Balk and the late Mr. Gilkison, the initial founders. Mr. Bonsell, recently returned from (censored), spoke in appreciation of the parcels periodically sent to members serving overseas, whom we hope to see with us ere long.

The events of the evening drew to a close, and with time honoured Auld Lang Syne the company wended their various ways homeward with the memory of a happy evening spent in the companionship of those who love the hills.

N & N.

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TRACK SIGNS.

Much tramping is along roads more or less supplied with sign-posts, but many trampers prefer hill, bush, or grass tracks. When the track is properly formed or cut and is comparatively wide there is not much doubt about keeping to the track, and a destination sign is about all that is required. In other cases the position of the track is frequently indicated by certain signs. These may be classified as (1) intentional signs and (2) unintentional signs.

Intentional signs, i.e., those made or placed in position by man to indicate the track, usually vary according to the surroundings. Some of these signs will be briefly dealt with.

The ordinary sign-post is usually used only for showing destination, and is not cheap. Sometimes it

takes the shape of a tall vertical cross with the horizontal bar pointing across the track. In this position it can be more quickly noticed and is not so likely to be mistaken for a tree-trunk. This cross is suitable for long stretches of grassland or stony river bed, for showing fords across a river and entrances to bush. This sign is used especially on the Haast track, where originally from any one cross in the open the next cross could be seen. A variation of the signpost was used some years ago on a part of the Dore Pass (between the Eglinton Valley and the head of Lake Te Anau) where, on a smooth blaze or a bit of board, directions were written how to reach the next indicator. The first of the indicators was at the side of the Eglinton Valley road where one had to turn off the road and they continued till the big blazes on the long ridge were reached. Signs of special shape and colour are sometimes used to indicate in what direction the route continued from the sign. They were in use on a part of the Haast when the road was being constructed.

In New Zealand the commonest way of marking a track is by blazing - cutting off a slice of bark so as to expose the white wood underneath. The blaze is used at any place when there could be a doubt where the track goes, especially where the track makes a bend. The blaze has to be big enough to be seen from a good distance away. Sometimes a painted metal disc is nailed to the tree trunks to do the work of the blaze. Patches of paint on the tree trunks are also used for the same purpose. Some of the North Island Tramping Clubs use discs. Strips of cloth tied to branches sometimes are very useful where trees cannot be blazed.

In scrub a track may be marked by partly breaking branches and letting them hang down so that they may be easily noticed. Twigs or large leaves placed on the ground are useful to indicate a new track that has to be retraced later.

In flax country use may be made of leaves tied into knots without removal from the plant, especially where the track bends.

In fern country tracks may be marked for retracing by placing fronds on the ground now and then all pointing in the right direction and with the lighter side upwards.

In tussock country knotting of the growing plant may be used for special purposes. The tussock can also be tied by string or by strips of cloth. Bits of paper stuck in split sticks stuck in the ground, are useful. Strips of cloth tied to the sticks can be used.

Places where a wire fence has to be crossed can be indicated by tying flax, twine, or strips of cloth around the wire. A clump of tussock fixed on the wire may be used.

In stony land tracks are usually marked by piles of three or four big stones at desirable distances apart.

In snow country, snow poles - long stick stuck upright in the ground each one visible from the next are very useful where the track is liable to be covered with snow.

Sometimes a track turns away from what seems the right direction, but it may be noted later that this was to avoid, say, a swamp, as is the case on the Greenstone track. A track over a bluff should be looked for sometimes a long time before the bluff itself is reached. A down track may lie on a different route from an up one as, for example, when a scree may be used on the down trip.

Unintentional signs may be dealt with at a later date.

(Contd. from P. 2)

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track as a watercourse and carry away the gravel and small stones which would form a good surface, and thus leave only big stones and bare rough rock.

The fourth section has some flat and some steep and rough portions, some bare rock and some sandy portions.

(cont. P. 12)

CLUB ROOM DUTY.

Oct.	13	Miss J. Beattie	and	Mr. P. Moore
	20	" N. Buswell	"	Miss S. Sharky
	27	Mr. L. Butterfield	"	Mr. J. Hermiston
Nov.	3	Miss N. Lawrenson	"	Miss N. Munro
	10	Mrs. A. McFarland	"	" E. Wilson
	17	Miss H. Donaldson	"	" M. Wilson
	24	" R. Beck	"	Mr. C. McGregor
Dec.	1	Mrs. N. Bonsell	"	Mr. N. Bonsell
	8	" E. Wing	"	Miss P. Hardie
	15	Mr. E. Hughes	"	Miss I. Stewart
	22	" F. Dunn	"	" M. Parkhill
	29	(CLOSED)		
Jan.	5	Miss L. Williamson	and	Miss N. McHugh
	12	Mrs. P. Thynne	"	" R. Beck
	19	Miss M. Parkhill	"	" N. Brooks
	26	" J. Beattie	"	" G. James
Feb.	2	" N. Buswell	"	Mrs. M. Marriott
	9	Mr. L. Butterfield	"	Miss E. Hislop
	16	Miss N. Lawrenson	"	" M. Munro
	23	Mrs. A. McFarland	"	" D. Wilson
Mar.	2	Miss H. Donaldson	"	" J. Meggett
	9	" R. Beck	"	" E. Wilson
	16	Mrs. N. Bonsell	"	Mr. N. Bonsell
	23	" E. Wing	"	Miss H. Donaldson
	30	Mr. E. Hughes	"	" M. Ramford.

NOTE: Any member unable to be present on the date set down should arrange for a substitute.

(Cont. from P. 11) ++++++

It is followed by a launch trip to the level road leading to the Hostel.

It may be gathered from this account that good stout footwear is an essential part of the trapper's equipment. Remnants of boots and shoes on the track tell a story, and so do the wearers of high heels.

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ALL members are asked to give their support to the
firms that advertise in "Outdoors", and also to
mention "Outdoors" to these supporters of our paper.

+++++

Some of the objects of the Otago Tramping Club are: To arrange walks and to supply information to visitors; to assist in the formation of new tracks and to help in the upkeep of existing ones; to protect native vegetation and bird life and generally to encourage a love of the out-of-doors.

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The Annual Subscription is 10/-, reducible to 7/6 if paid by the 1st. December.

All Subscriptions become due on the 1st September of each year, and are payable in advance.

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If a leader is unable to take charge of the trip for which he is set down, he is requested to arrange for a substitute.

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The Club's Hut at Green Peak is available as a base for more extended trips.

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