



Summer 2013/14



Newsletter of the
West Coast Alpine Club



Proof of Arapalian Adventures

Committee korero

The committee has been primarily working on changes to the constitution due to many of the rules being quite dated. Most of the changes are to support what is currently occurring in the club.

We held a Special Annual General Meeting on the 20th November 2013 to vote in these changes. The meeting was attended by 18 people, with many apologies. Jack opened, with a nice speech on the members achievements in the outdoors. Karen and Samara led the discussion and procedure around changes to the constitution.

In many cases, discussion broadened the scope of the rules, allowing the committee more flexibility in the future.

One new rule has been implemented as a result of the climbing wall. A short-term membership of seven consecutive days shall be available to visitors to allow them to access the Climbing Wall facility within that period. This membership shall not entitle the holder to any other member privileges. The fee shall be set by the committee.

Amongst the tedious process of working out the wording of the proposed rules. Mary Traves was explaining the historical perspective on why a rule was like it was, when Ian Selwood bid her to keep to discussion short by saying "We would like to go home tonight Mary". Only minutes later the discussion changed, and Ian started explaining his perspective on the matter. Part way through his lengthening rhetoric Jason Blair piped up with "we would like to go home tonight Ian." Everyone enjoyed that very much.

Paul Caffyn finished with a brief slideshow of his and Karen Grant's recent rock climbing trip to Mt Arapilies. He opened with a photo taken of a photo in the guide book, for a moment there I wondered if they had even gone to Mt Arapilies at all. Maybe they were just hanging out at 12 Mile making up stories, taking photos of photos and writing poems, I thought. But no, there were also photos of Paul and Karen delicately poised on the beautiful red rock.

The evening was topped off by the wine and snacks left over from the opening of the Sir Edmund Hillary movie.

Book Review - West Coast Walking

Title: West Coast Walking

Subtitle: A naturalist's guide

Author: Kerry-Jayne Wilson

Published: March 2013

Publisher: Canterbury University Press

Website: www.cup.canterbury.ac.nz

Contents: 366 pp, colour photos, maps, species index, index

Cover: softcover

Size: 153 x 227 mm

Price: NZ\$ 40

ISBN: 978-1-927145-42-5

Availability: NZ bookshops

Review: Paul Caffyn

Kerry-Jayne Wilson is a long time KASK member and many of the gorgeous colour photos in this book have been taken from Kerry-Jayne's kayak.

After Kerry-Jayne retired from her Lincoln University lecturer (ecology and conservation) job, she moved to the West Coast and began a four year project of researching and writing a field guide to the fauna and flora from Haast

northwards to Karamea and east to include Arthurs Pass and Murchison. At the Hokitika book launch on 27 March, Kerry-Jayne said she was enjoying the research so much, the project could have run for another year or two, but the publisher gave her a very strict deadline to have the draft on her desk.

In Part One, 'Setting the Scene', three chapters describes the 'physical environment', 'plants' and 'vegetation and animals'. Each of these chapters is well illustrated, from the opening double page pic to the one or two photos per page, which are inserted to match the page text and the captions are well thought out.

In Part Two, nine chapters have the details for nature guides to the walks, lakes and highways of the separate areas. Easy chapter is to find as each has a superb two page landscape photo as well as the region is printed on the top side of each page, for ease of flicking though to the right region. Each chapter has only one small scale map, which is perhaps a

disadvantage, but easily overcome with more detail on specific 1:50,000 topo maps or national park maps. A double page 'walk details' summary table follows each chapter maps, with headings: length, grade and type, walk starts at, attractions, and a colour code showing at a glance the time for walks, from under and hour to hour hours or longer. Those tracks with wheelchair access are shown. Kayak trips are tagged with crossed paddles.

Then each chapters tiki tour through the towns, walks, lakes and rivers. An example; Lake Mahinapua has an introductory paragraph, then describes the history, geology and geomorphology, vegetation and wildlife. Five walks are described with a final section on kayaking on the lake, complete with an easily recognizable photo of Sandy Ferguson paddling.

Occasional side-bars accompanying a photo, provide specific details on fauna and flora species. The 'Further reading' list is comprehensive, and just before the

Book Review cont...

index is a 'Species index' for fauna and flora, with both page numbers listed for photos and text. Ideal for 'twitchers'*.

The West Coast book launch, held in Hokitika, was well attended. Kerry-Jayne spoke of how during her research trips, people would react to see her armed with binoculars, species identification guides and notebook.

"What do you do?"

"I'm an ornithologist"

"A what?"

"An ornithologist, I study birds."

"Oh so you are a twitcher*."

"No I do research on birds."

Stunned silence.

Next time I tried a new response: "I'm an ecologist."

"So you are a sandal wearing, lentil-eating, hippy conservationist."

So the next time I tried: "I'm a naturalist."

"Oh so you like running round naked."

"NO, naturalist not naturist! I'm interested in natural history."

"Ah, so its gold-mining you study"

"No, not history - nature!"

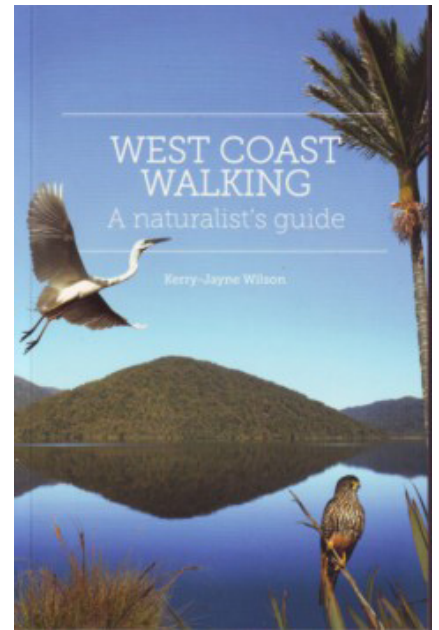
This book is a brilliant resource for paddling or tramping trips to the West Coast. The book will fit easily into a day hatch, or back pack. I would also suggest it is an ideal 'pressie' to attract friends or husbands over to the wild West Coast.



Kaz Rohloff tackles a newly upgraded Coolgardie Track, being jointly developed by WCAC and the Westland Mountain Bike Club.

* I had to look this term up. Twitching is a British term used to mean, 'the pursuit of a previously-located rare bird.' In North America it is more often called 'chasing', though the British usage is starting to catch on there, especially among younger birders. The term twitcher, sometimes misapplied as a synonym for birder, is reserved for those who travel long distances to see a rare bird that would then be ticked, or counted on a list.

Kerry-Jayne commented: "The question what do you do has been a dilemma for me all my adult life, why do people find ornithologist so difficult, confuse ecology with conservation activism and fail to appreciate nature is best studied clothed?"



Jennifer Rose Manuel, at 3.5 yrs made the summit of Mt George on anniversary weekend to a rapturous congratulations from Mum, Dad and brother Caden. Helped only up the gully steps that were bigger than her. She earned the ice cream at the end and felt very proud.

Alpine Days

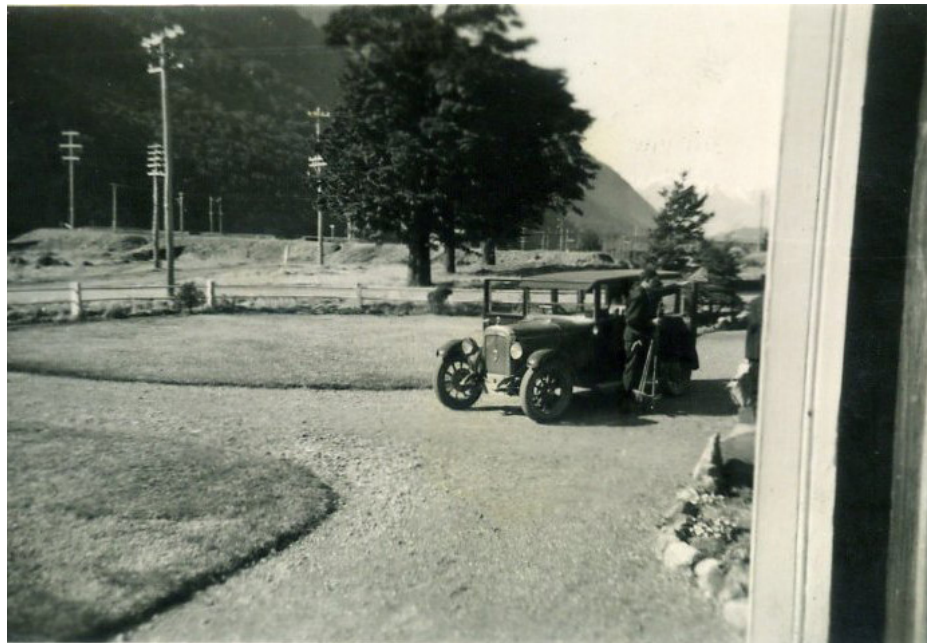
» *By Lindsay Hayton*

Memories of an 82 year old of the happy time as a member of the Alpine Club in the post war years and early 1950's. I met my husband, Bill, when we were members and a few other romances blossomed at that time. We spent many weekends at the Pass. Train or railcar on Friday night and early morning rail car from Christchurch on Monday. After the early morning fresh mountain air, stepping into stuffy sleeping bodies and the smell of newspapers was a great shock. Many of these weekends were spent building the Club hut. The old school was used for accommodation or the Hostel if only a couple of girls went up there.

Ski-ing - we never had the luxury of ski lifts, skis were hired from Oscar Coberger's shop. They were like fence palings and we hired his old Rolls Royce taxi to the top of the pass and then the trek up to Temple Basin with our gear, then to find the snow so icy and too hard to ski on. Skiing on the road was not allowed but if the road was closed, we couldn't see the harm.

I remember starting the Three Pass trip with the weather report "fine all over New Zealand" and the first day, New Year's Eve, at the first hut, it poured all night, the river came up and we were stranded. Three of us had to get back to our jobs so were very disappointed. Had to get my father off the bowling green to pick us up at Hokitika - not popular.

Kelly's Hut was always a popular climb, the male members went up on the "perishable" train, they would get the train to slow down enough for them to jump off at the start of the track. We girls were not game enough. I remember there was no need to take coal to the Club Hut, in those days coal trucks



Arthur's Pass taxi

↑ *L Hayton*

were uncovered and some lumps of good Strongman coal would accidentally fall off! Some of our members were also members of the Canterbury Club so the boys had the luxury of their hut. Most of the peaks and tracks were covered all over the Coast. One trip we had from (can't recall where) and came out at the Ten Mile Creek, somehow, three members were left behind and spent the night out, arriving out in the morning, just before the police were about to start their search.

We had a lot of fun with "Gus and his bus" - he picked us up on Sundays at 8am from the Greymouth Post Office. Sometimes he did short tramps with us but I can't remember how he filled in his day waiting for our return. Fish and chips were usually the way to finish the day off at a cafe and country pubs were a very welcome place to quench the thirst after a long days outing.

Just a few memories an old brain can bring to mind.



Ball Hut, 1939

Lucy Duffy; Jack Keating (Junior); Norm Young; Peter Hooper; Rex Gilmour; the Southorn brothers; Peter Dick and Harry Ashurst.

This above article was sent by Lindsay Hayton for Club's 75th anniversary celebrations in 2011. She also sent a , set of photographs of Club activities in the late 1940's. Lindsay's sister, who lives in Warburton Street Greymouth, had seen the February Messenger article advertising the upcoming 75th and let Lindsay know.

She then contacted the organising committee, speaking to both Graeme Macilquham and Mary Trayes. She booked to come to the 75th dinner and sent a clear file with her story and the photos to accompany the booking.

Lindsay wasn't up to coming over on the day (the many earthquakes in Canterbury having made her a little nervous of travelling away from home), but she was sent copies of both the new 75th magazine and the 50th one, and was thanked on May 16th (by 'phone) for donating her booking money and the photographs, by Mary Trayes.



Franz Josef Glacier party at Easter 1947

↑ *R Warburton*

Members of Lindsay's era were:

Bill and Nancy Hayton; Alan (Chick) Clarke; Speedy Mead; Val Smith (Stirling); Irene Harbidge (Finlay); Bill Hayes; Max Lambert; John Hopcroft; Shorty Foster; Margaret Instone; Hilda Fairhall (Nyberg); Jeff North; June North (Bishop); Bill Crawshaw; Mariott Sheard; Trevor Sheard;

Arapiles, October 2013

» by Paul Caffyn

So often in the last couple of years, the topic of climbing at Arapiles has cropped up at the Greymouth indoor climbing wall. Blokes and girls with excellent suntans, regaling wall climbers with stories of marvelous climbs and how good the Arapiles rock was. After a torrid two years+ of dealing with a replacement knee and a brush with cancer, I decided it was high time to visit this mecca of Australian climbing. It would be a grand test how my trad. skills from climbing in Queensland, NSW, WA and Tasmania in the late 60s, stood up to the passage of time. In training for our late October trip, Karen and I refrained from top roping at the indoor wall – just lead climbing. Armed with the Arapiles guide book from Josh Hudson, and a list of three star recommended climbs, plus a gear rack, from Russell McRae, Karen and I crossed the ditch and rental-vanned the four hour drive to Natimuk in north-western Victoria.

Following a warm up on Diapason, a three pitch grade 8, we ventured onto Eskimo Nell, a five pitch grade 10, where my secret weapons – sticky rubber neoprene knee protectors – were trialed. They were certainly great with extra

friction in the chimneys and rifts, but were useless with the incredible exposure on the vertical, sometimes slightly overhanging pitches.

Russell had thoroughly recommended Agamemnon as a three star ‘must do’ climb. A two pitch rift climb, 50 metres in length, the rift grows in width with height gained. The 2nd pitch (photo) began as a wall climb, with a blank bit necessitating bridging across the rift, and then chimneying up the last few metres to the top (see photo of Karen). My new bionic knee performed a treat – no issue with high knee lifts or the wide bridging move. Stunning exposure - with a 50m free abseil free to the ground.



Eskimo Nell is route number 101, in the excerpt from the guide book Arapiles – Selected Climbs



Karen leading the 5th pitch of Eskimo Nell with the thin crux moves still to come

The verticality of the routes took me a while to get used to, but the rock is competent, bombproof big jug holds on the overhanging bits, and not a hint of the ‘weetbix’ type rock like we see in the Southern Alps. We climbed routes with pitches graded between 8 and 12, and boy oh boy, some of the moves felt like 18 to 22. Placement of natural pro, chocks and cams was generally a dream on these easier routes. Despite the low grades for the climbs, some of the moves certainly gave me ‘dry mouth’ moments. The start of the 3rd pitch of Siren involved stepping across ‘The Void’ from a flat belay ledge onto a seemingly holdless wall, a sort of bridging move with a view a long way down to the ground.

Even the down routes from the tops were interesting; skinny and broad ledges, tunnels and caves to negotiate, and the grade 3 Ali’s was chained, bar for the last 12 metres to easy ground. A move to prevent tourists from getting stuck higher up.

Our last climb was to The Bard, a five pitch, three *** classic first climbed in 1965, the days of long run-outs with bugged all protection. It has a 15 metre horizontal traverse, which has quite a reputation for difficulty. All week I had



Karen jamming on the 1st pitch of Eskimo Nell



Paul bridging across the rift on the 2nd pitch of Agamemnon

been thinking I was doomed on this traverse. Some smaller climbers have squirreled their way along this narrowing traverse, while Karen reckoned it was better to keep your feet low, stand upright



Karen topping out on Agememnon

and ignore the massive drop below. Early on our last day at Arapiles, I was still desperately trying to dredge up 'Bard' avoidance excuses, but nothing seemed to satisfy Karen. At least this was not her first ascent - she had led most of the pitches, bar 'The Traverse' back in April.

On the first, relatively smooth rock pitch, Karen's sole runner popped out and slid down the rope to me. I quickly climbed up an adjacent rib and used the stopper to set up a higher belay point. At that point, three Kiwi rockclimbers stopped for a yarn, including John Entwistle from Christchurch. They had already knocked off three climbs of 17+ grade, and we chatted briefly about new knees and things. With comments like, "You will enjoy 'The Bard'", they headed back to the camp. Now there was really no way of backing off the climb now.

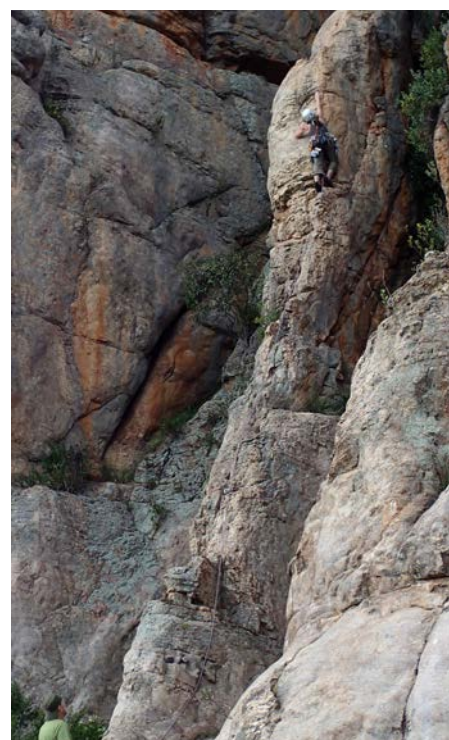
Karen did exceedingly well leading all the pitches this time. I had two serious dry mouth moments; the first on the traverse after the easy holds faded away,

with bugger all to grip onto. At least Karen had three good cams in place, thus a big pendulum would not occur, but I was rather pleased to join her on the very airy, belay stance. When a wire stopper on the a bare section of the third pitch failed to respond to prying, poking and tugging - and I hate leaving kit on a climb - my mouth went bone dry for a second time. Both footholds and handholds were miniscule, and arm strength had faded after several minutes. It was certainly a bombproof runner but I had to leave it. Then only metres above, I was rewarded by retrieving a chock that another climber had missed. The rest of the climb went well and we made the Natikmuk pub before the restaurant closed, celebrating with glasses of lovely Aussie shiraz, steak, salad and chips (see poem below).

Our choice of timing was near perfect, just the one day of rain which allowed a shopping trip to Horsham. Mostly the other days were overcast, cool and breezy and never too hot.

So Arapiles - was it worth the time and expense to journey to this mecca of Australian rock climbing?

Indeed it was, and we are already planning another visit in October 2014. And the really, really good thing about climbing at Arapiles, that Aussie climbers are only there at the weekends - during the weekdays, you only meet fellow Kiwi climbers on the cliffs.



Karen on the bulgy crux of Piccolo

ARAPILES - THE BARD

» *by Paul and Karen*

Paul Caffyn and Karen Grant
Conquered 'The Bard' and its traverse;
With gritted teeth and whitened
knuckles,
We both hoped it could get no worse
But with three pitches still to go,
Our hearts were filled with dread
Our furrowed brows echoed our woes,
The worry we'd not be fed

For surely now the hour was late,
The Natimuk pub would soon be shut
With empty bellies, the fear of no dinner
Was far worse than a stab in the guts

Our minds now focussed,
Our efforts redoubled
The final three pitches
Were not too much trouble!

High five at the top
Then down the chains we went
Threw our gear in our van,
Our time here was spent

Over steak, chips and salad
We agreed "That was hard"
And raised our glasses and said,
"To those buggers who first led 'The Bard'"



The easy first moves on the traverse, before the 'dry mouth' bits



Karen leading on the bare rock section of The Bard's first pitch

Mountain Biking Craigieburn Tracks

Labour Weekend 2013





» Rachel Berry

Jonny Horrox and I set out to ride Craigieburn on Labour day Monday after a weekend of typical cold and wet spring weather, but at least Monday dawned fine and clear. The new Sidle 73 track connecting the carpark on Broken River road to Craigieburn road was still shut due to wet conditions but after a short ride on SH73 we were off up the skifield road.

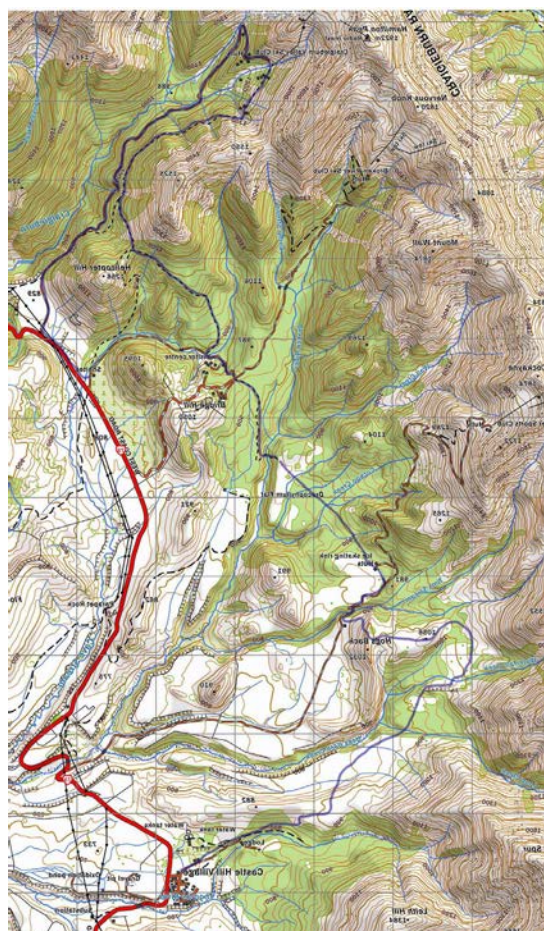
Not far along the road was the first hurdle, a huge scree slide had come down and completely engulfed the road for about 30- 40 metres. A rough scrambly track had begun to be worn in the slide so we hauled our bikes up and over the loose scree.

The skifield road is about 7km and climbs steadily up 500m to the bottom rope tow. A lot of fresh snow had fallen the day before, so for the last 2 km we were riding in fresh squeaky snow thinking that snow chains could have been good option

when the going got steep and deep. The trail turns back down the valley after the skifield following the walking track, however with deep snow some of the early parts were barely distinguishable. Further down the trail crosses a few large scree slides all of which have a rough track crossing them sometimes rideable but not so much today. After an enjoyable descent through beech forest the route takes a right turn to climb up to Lyndon saddle, a steep grunt, then a fast descent to Broken River road although after rain this was a bit greasy and luckily the trampers didn't see my bike somersault skills!

At the Broken River road we headed up to the Dacrophyllum track which connects to the cheeseman road. This trail initially descends quickly to the Broken River bridge- fun on the way down but a grind /push going up. The trail passes through

Dacrophyllum flat with a narrow winding trail through said bushes then into a prairie like flats sheltered by stands of native beech. Later it crosses a couple of stream valleys and the trail here is still under construction so in the wet, the word quagmire seemed appropriate. Later the track crosses another open tussock plain before following a newly built route into Tims steam before reaching the cheeseman road.



The map shows the continuous main bike track from Broken River, up Craigieburn skifield road, around and over Lyndon Saddle, down to Broken River Skifield road, up to Dacrophyllum Flat, out to Cheesman Ski Field road, over the Hogs back and down, then over ridge and down to Castle Hill village.

Aaron's Notes

The ride is a full day of purpose built single track. Although this track was built over a number of years, this is only the main route through this area. Castle Hill. net has many other tracks mapped and displayed on their website. There is everything on offer from a quick ride, on easy tracks to hard down hills to practice your bike somersault skills!

The dry firm soil, openish beech forest, and motivated locals have turned Castle Hill Basin into one of the best mountain bike areas in NZ.

Buckland Peaks trip, November 2013

» Di Hooper

Putting a trip on the calendar is a really good thing to do as it makes you get up, pack up and actually go. When Jo emailed, I remembered that the Buckland trip was down for the coming weekend... would the weather be ok? We'd had a month of average murk. But the weather was reading as ok - we would go. Rachel, Jo and at the last minute, Frida.

We made good time up to the hut...Still the weather looked like it was holding... Would we get a chance to get up to the rocky tops in the morning? We would

have to be early, since the dratted coastal cumulus often backs up on the tops before 10am, unless its an easterly.



View from the Buckland Peak

It rained all night! But in the pre-dawn morning, a perfect starry sky was the "let's go" call. We reached the magical rocky, hobbit, tarn speckled tops an hour or so latter. Then cruised over the summit plateau to reach the eastern end of the peak for the hairy, eery view down into the Ohiknui abyss, not too much later.

It is like another land up there...Fab slabs, a huge variety of rock routes, a bivvy rock or two, reflecting pools and tarns, and awesome drop-offs. Best time to go? In an easterly airflow as the tops would stay clear all day. In early spring there is often snow in large drifts and the whole area can feel very alpine. It is alpine. Gorgeous. The trip participants - Rachel Berry, Di Hooper, Jo Newton and Frida Inta.



Over the ranges from Bucklands



Townson Tarn



Mole Tops, Nov 30th - Dec - 2

» Alan Jemison

Mole tops, is one place that has escaped my attention over the years, and, as I have retired from proper tramping, I can make a walk of it. The weather forecast was a one in three odds of one fine day, pretty good really. I loaded Cous Cous and Beans into my pack, and set off in steady rain about 9.30 on Saturday morning.

The track up Jameson Ridge, 30km from Murchison is well sign posted and states 4.5 hrs to Mole Saddle, or was it to Mole hut?

Unfortunately, the track is not well marked from the second fence crossing. So I lost the track after only 10 minutes. I

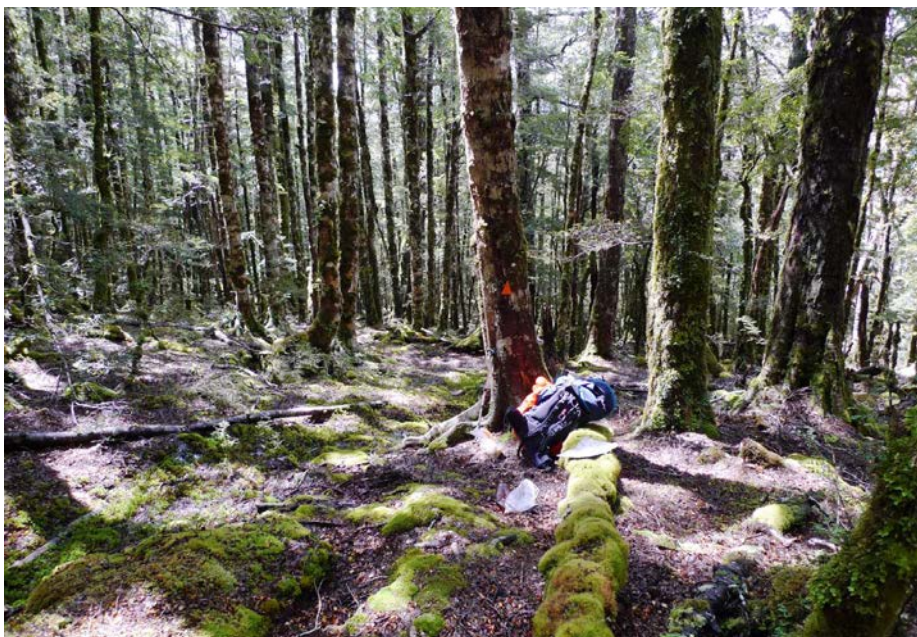
decided to follow the fenceline up to the ridge, as there is only one ridge to follow. Every good woman knows when you lose a track keep going up, aye. I must come across it again shortly, or so I thought. An hour later I was still nowhere near it.

After a quick look at the map I decided

the track must be way over to my right. The bush here is open beech forest, soft underfoot, with many moss covered holes just waiting for me to find them. Sidling to my right and climbing to get around windfalls and gullies, I made it to the top of some thing but, in the midst of thick stunted bush there was still no sign of the track!!

I was very wet at this stage, thinking what to do? Keep going right young man, an encouraging thought came to me although, I wasn't feeling very young. Two and a half hours from the car I stumbled out of the scrub onto the highway like track. Easy going now, up the almost flat ridge allowed me to reach the bushline at 2pm.

Above the bushline, the low cloud mist and drizzle, followed by a strong breeze meant this was not an ideal lunch spot. So I continued following the poles along the open ridge over (or along), swampy Mole saddle and down to the bush. I past a sign that read Tiraumea hut 3 hrs. 4 hrs later I finally walked into Tiraumea hut after mostly good travel down the stream. The last hour above the hut was a bit



First sign of sunshine. Snack time and where I left drink bottle.

overgrown and wind fally. The hut was warm inside thanks to the little sunshine, and it has a good pot belly stove. Great for drying out my soaked clothes.

Sunday. The plan was to head over Tiraumea saddle down to the lake, then up to Mole hut via Bull Creek. But, after reading bad reports of Bull Creek in the hut book and feeling my grumpy non-compliant legs, I decided to head back the way I'd come. I also discovered I had left my drink bottle some where up near the bush line. I thought I will have lunch where I find it, but as time was moving quicker than me, I stopped just short of it. Picking it up just a few meters after my lunch spot.

5.5 hrs later I arrived at Mole Hut, with its door wide open and no one to be seen. Not much sun, but better than the day before, still poor visibility.

The last entry in the hut book was about a month ago, so I was very lucky no vermin had got in to really mess things up. There is no fire place in this little 4 bunker. I arrived at the hut at 3:40 in spasmodic sunshine. With no more walking for me that day I had cups of tea, food and bed.

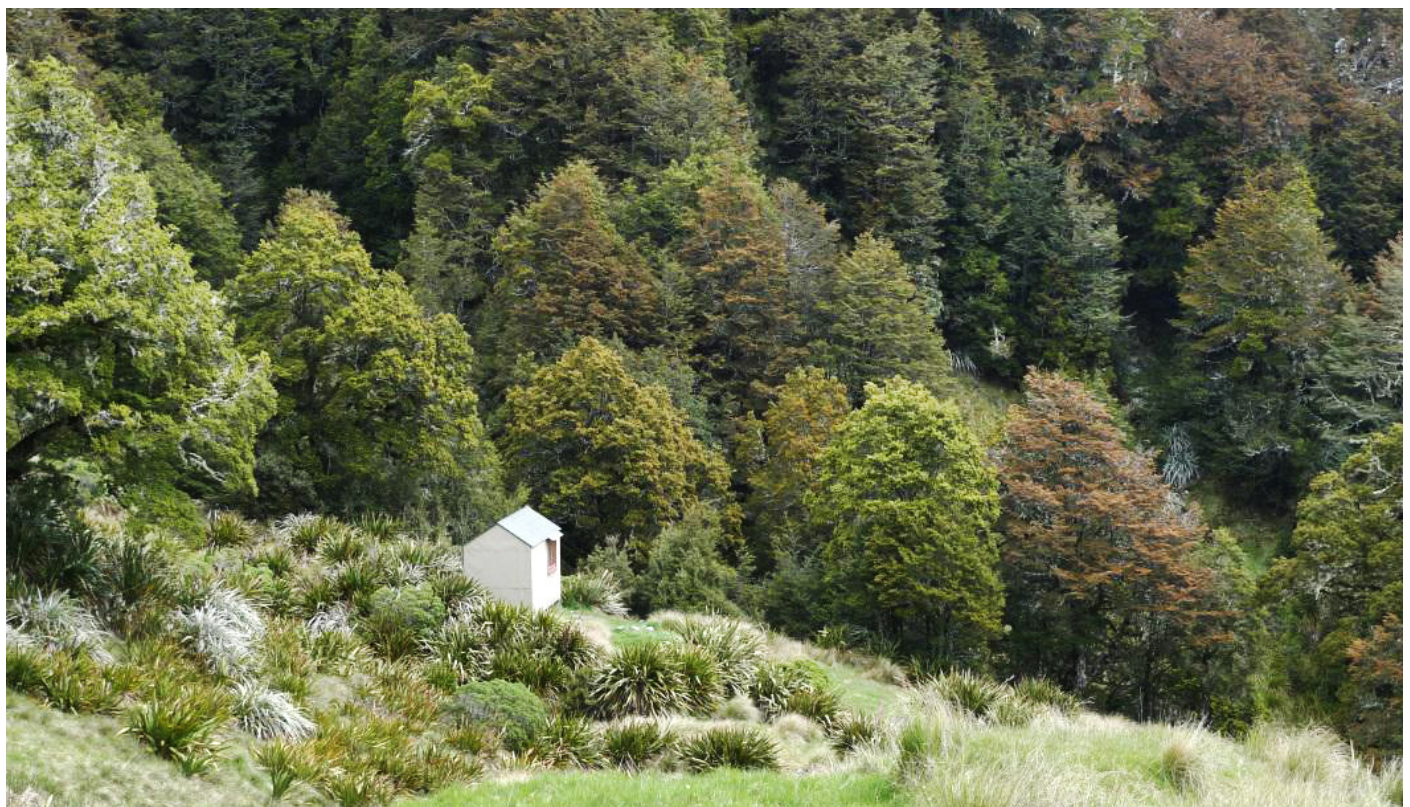
Up at 6 to a perfect day, I had to get high. High into the pure clean air of altitude. Away by 7, I went straight up behind the hut through some great camp sites. Following good deer trails untill the Mole



Tiraumea Hut

Tops skyline was reached in an hour. Well, I was only intending to climb to the first knob on the ridge but, with such a great day I could not help myself from walking along to the next bump. From there I had better views of Lake Rotoroa and Mt Misery, my next target, maybe at Christmas. Well with a name like that you have to go there, don't you??!!

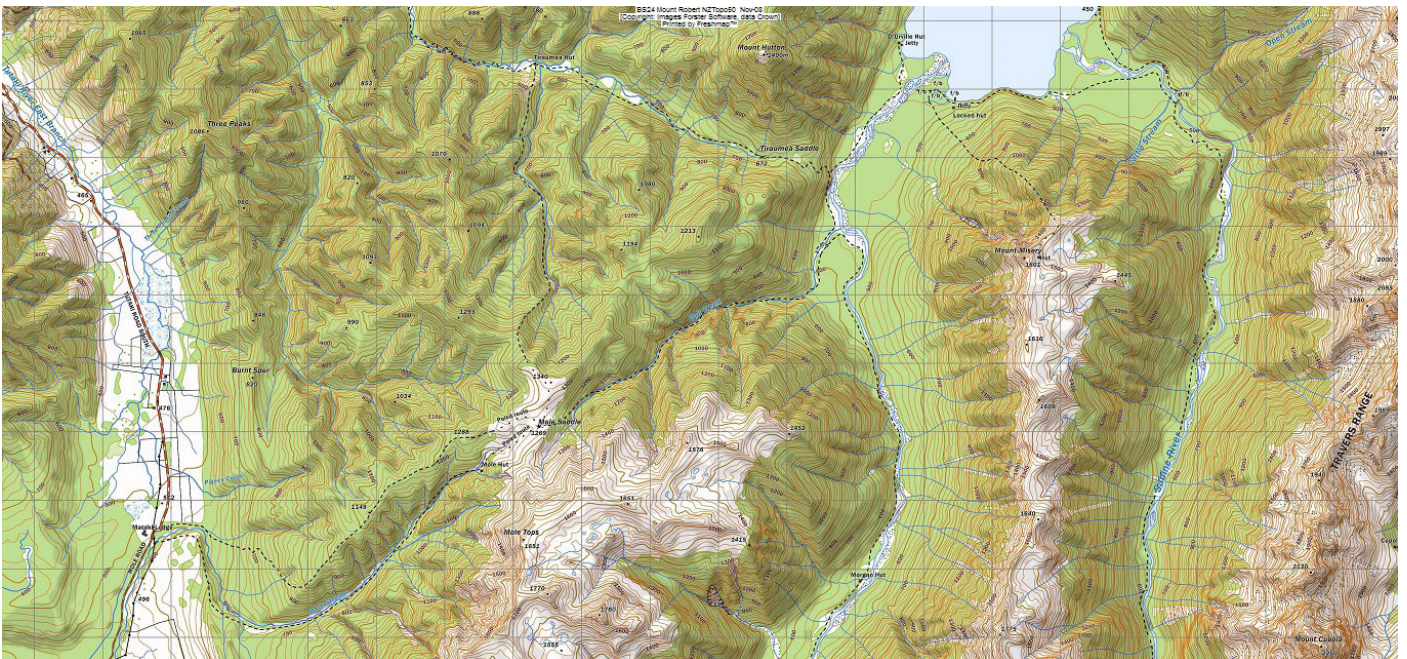
Back down to the hut for a late morning tea, and then rather than climbing all the way to Mole saddle to pick up the Jameson ridge track. I gained the track by climbing from the hut up through the swampy bush, and had an uneventful walk out along the ridge, arriving at the car 4pm. Nice.



Mole Hut



Lake Rotoroa. Mt Misery is the one in the centre mid field with Mt Hopeless behind and Mt Cupola left.

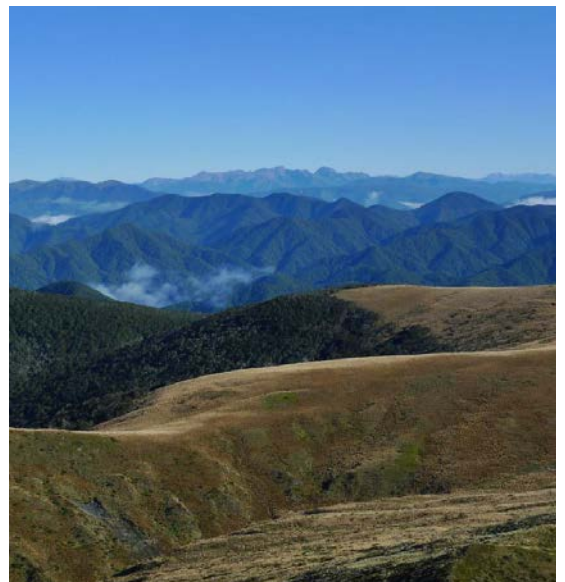


The Mole tops track network can be accessed from two sides. The Jameson Ridge and Mole Stream are accessed road. From Murchison drive up the Mangles Valley, then left at Tutaki and on up the Tukaki River until the tracks are reached after about 20km. The Lake Rotoroa end of the track can be by walking around the lake, or water taxi from Rotoroa. There are shuttles that can return you to your car.

These track times I pulled off the internet. They suggest one option for the direction of your trip. Adding Mt Misery into the trip at some point seems to be a goal for some parties. This 1100m climb would be more achievable if the water taxi is used and the climb undertaken on first day.

Aaron's Notes

| Location | Distance | Times |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| D'urville Hut to Tiraumea Hut | 14 km | 6 hours |
| Tiraumea Hut to Mole Tops Hut | 5.6 km | 4 hours |
| Mole Tops Hut to Road End | 8.5 km | 4 hours |





Turiwhate

» *Tate Bradley*

It was a damp and gloomy Sunday in early October. Low cloud enforced a grounded feeling amongst the ranks. Cabin fever was in the air. Luckily not for long, as due to forward planning and a determined tramping party... there was walking to do.

The route was partially scouted a few weeks earlier by Ben Aynsley. A member of the aforementioned 'tramping party', not the Oracle Skipper. Other reports of successful part traverses were coming through but no reliable sources mentioned reaching the summit of Mt Turiwhati.

Ben and I rendezvoused with Jarred Klempel, the third and final member of our party, at the Grahams Creek bridge shortly after 9am. Packs were packed, boots were tied and we set off up the roughly cut track alongside Grahams Creek. For the most part the track was marked and cut reasonably well, but the odd section seemed to lead us into oblivion. Or perhaps it was our navigational skills leading us astray.

Once out of the bush, glimpses of the Taramakau valley below were caught briefly through the clouds.

The summit was reached not long after noon. We were greeted by a trig and possibly the remnants of its predecessor. Empty stomachs were soon filled with gourmet lunches while light drizzle settled on our still coats. The cool air began to find its way to our cores prompting us that it was time to leave.

Visibility only worsened on our decent. With our primary objective of reaching the summit complete, we concentrated on the secondary objective. Finding the memorial site of the fallen Gipsy Moth ZK-AAI, which claimed two lives eighty years ago. We were all but guessing the whereabouts of the memorial cairn, claimed to be 200 feet from the tops. After a brief scout and no sign of it we decided to postpone our search for another, clearer day.

For anyone wishing to climb Turiwhate a solid eight hour return traverse can be expected. If anyone would like to accompany us on round two flick me an email.

toelbroel@gmail.com

<http://www.westcoastalpineclub.org.nz>



WEST COAST ALPINE CLUB INFORMATION SHEET 2011 - 12

www.westcoastalpineclub.org.nz

| COMMITTEE | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| President | Alan Jemison * | 03 762 6060 (H) | alanj.98@family.net.nz |
| Vice President | Samara Martin | 03 768 4590 (H) | samaramartin@hotmail.com |
| Secretary | Rachel Berry * | 03 755 8811 (H) | rachelberry@paradise.net.nz |
| Treasurer | Karen Grant | 03 769 9607 (Wk) | kareng@tpp.ac.nz |
| Club Captain | Jason Blair | 03 762 5845 (H) | admin@westcoastalpineclub.org.nz |
| General Committee: | | | |
| Webmaster | Evan Hunt | 03 768 9489 (H) | evanhunt@extra.co.nz |
| Gear Hire Custodian | Jonny Horrox | 03 762 6132 (H) | jh@wcr.govt.nz |
| Climbing Wall Liaison | Jack Grinsted | 027 481 4222 (Cell) | jackgrinsted@gmail.com |
| Committee Member | Rose Burrell | 03 762 5527 (H) | burrellg@hotmail.com |
| Committee Member | Denise Mayes | 027 682 4064 (Cell) | [not on email] |
| Committee Member | John Burrell | 03 762 5527 | jhnburrell667@gmail.com |
| Committee Member | Frith Dollimore | 027 753 4880 (Cell) | frithdollimore@gmail.com |

Subs due: Adult: \$30 School Student: \$15 Family: \$35 Newsletter Only: \$15

Club Hut - Arthur's Pass

The club maintains a 13 bunk hut in the Arthur's Pass Village. The key code for the front door is available from committee members as asterisked above. The Hut is available to members and approved non-members (e.g. former members, friends and other tramping clubs etc). To ensure fair use of the hut for all, those wishing to stay longer than 5 nights must get permission from a club officer first.

General hut use is on a 'first come first served basis,' but note that Club Snowcraft Course weekends have priority use. It is also possible to book the hut for your exclusive use by applying to the Committee in advance and paying a deposit. This is then advertised to all members. General users can use the Club E-Group to let others know they intend to use the hut (see below).

A fire warden must be appointed for the duration of your stay (as per our Fire Permit) and any problems at the Hut, e.g. with plumbing, should be reported promptly to a committee member. Before leaving Hut users should organise the method of fee payment, sign the Hut Log Book, and ensure the Hut is secure. For more information see the latest Hut Information Sheet and/or read the notices at the Hut.

Hut Fees/night:
Members: \$8 per for adults and \$4 for school children
Non Members: \$16 per for adults and \$8 for school children

Hut fees should be paid promptly in one of three ways

- Put money in Hut Box (with names of those who stayed and when)
- Mail your payment to the WCAC Treasurer at PO Box 136 Greymouth, 7840
- Pay by direct credit to the Club Account at ASB Greymouth. Account No. 12 3168 0044967 02

Club Gear Hire

The gear is located at Jonny Horrox's home, 15 Dowling Street, Paroa. Email jh@wcr.govt.nz OR 'phone 03 762 6132. Hire equipment includes ice axes, crampons, harnesses, helmets at great prices. Good value for beginners. Adequate notice is appreciated but last minute gear hiring is fine, anytime, providing you can track him down.

Club E-Group

If you wish to send a message to other members via the Clubs Email Group List, please email your message to either the Secretary or Club Captain and put 'Circulate WCAC' in the Subject Line. Messages can include letting others know you intend to use the Club Hut, trip details, changes to trips, news items etc.



Boots is the semi-regular newsletter of the West Coast Alpine Club. You can contact us by email: admin@westcoastalpineclub.org.nz

P.O. Box 136
Greymouth 7805
New Zealand