

Otago-Southland 19th Annual Study Trip Tramp – February 1998

Tentative arrangements have been made for the 1998 tramp to the South East Coast of Stewart Island. The plan is to travel by launch from Bluff to Big Kuri Bay (a delightful spot) on Thursday, February 12 and then to tramp through untracked virgin podocarp forest to Toitoe Flats, on to Table Hill on the Tin Range, and then on to Fred's Camp on the SW arm of Paterson Inlet where a launch will transport the party back to Bluff on Monday, February 16.

The forest along the coast to Toitoe Flats belongs to the Rakura Maoris and permission has been obtained to tramp through it. Kiwis are plentiful in this area and most likely they will be seen during daytime tramping.

An invitation is extended to members throughout New Zealand to join this visit to an interesting remote part of Stewart Island. However, because only two launch operators are permitted in this area and February is a busy season for them it is necessary to know the numbers participating by the end of November

to enable firm bookings to be made. One launch takes 12 and the other 22 people. Numbers may need to be limited. Therefore bookings could be on a first-come-first-served basis.

For further information and bookings contact: Jim Smith, 86 Glenpark Avenue, Dunedin. Ph: 03 453 5143.

NZ's wood-processing technology has promising future in Fiji

Moves by Fiji's Government to increase the productivity of its local forestry industry promises to pay off for New Zealand companies.

Representatives from 11 companies belonging to Woodtech Solutions, an export-focused joint-action group, visited Fiji in August to address three technical seminars arranged by Tradenz Suva.

The objective of the mission was to promote the capability and cost-effectiveness of New Zealand's timber-processing technology, and to give the New Zealanders on the mission a greater insight into the specific complexities and requirements of Fiji's forestry industry.



Well-known Dunedin member – and for 32 years organiser of Dunedin branch's annual February "Backcountry Study Walks" – Jim Smith, in February this year.



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