

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* THE NEWS \*  
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No.41.

of

15th February, 1952.

..... THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS .....

ANNUAL MEETING  
\*\*\*\*\*

FEBRUARY 22nd

8 pm Sharp

ROOM 56, V.R.I.

c hope to see a big proportion of Club members showing their interest in Club activities by being present at this meeting next Friday, when reports will give a general picture of Club affairs during the last twelve months.

THE ELECTION of OFFICE-BEARERS and COMMITTEE for 1952 will be an important part of proceedings. Every year there are changes made, as all present Committee members do not necessarily wish to stand for re-election, and members are asked to give some thought to choosing suitable persons to make up an energetic and capable team for 1952. Remember that every person on the Committee will have a definite job to do, and must be willing to give time and thought to doing it.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA are

- a) Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
- b) Correspondence.
- c) Annual Report.
- d) Financial Statement.
- e) Determination of Annual Subscription for 1952.
- f) Election of Full Committee.
- g) General Business.

CLUBROOM

We had expected to be occupying the new Clubroom at 161 Flinders Lane by now, but as renovations are not yet completed we must postpone the change-over. tentative date is March 6th (Thursday), but watch Notice-board for final arrangement.

Work-parties are being arranged to carry out various jobs, and in previous weeks a number of our members have given their services. There is still some painting, cleaning, carpentering and general arrangement to be done, and we ask anyone willing to give a hand to see Fred Soutter tonight.

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NOTICE OF MOTION

Last month, for the first time on record, we believe, we had to wait for a quorum before the General Meeting could begin - we were just one short for some time, so it can be imagined with what relief all eyes turned to the door as the vital one entered! Gerda Schwerin was among the absent, so the motion of which she had given notice lapsed. However, she has given notice that she intends to move it at the next convenient General Meeting. The motion reads as follows:

"Nominations for office-bearers and committee members shall be made in writing by proposer and seconder, and such nomination paper shall also be signed by the nominee. Nominations shall be in the hands of the Returning Officer not later than 7 days prior to publication of the last "NEWS" preceding the Annual General Meeting. The names of nominees shall be published in the above-mentioned edition of "THE NEWS".

"In case of failure to receive the required nominations, these shall be called for at the Annual General Meeting, prior to the elections."

N.B. For the coming elections, nominations will be called for as usual at the meeting. If any nominee is absent, the nominator must have his written consent to be nominated. If any member wishes to make a nomination, but is unable to attend the meeting, he may make a written nomination to reach the Secretary before the meeting.

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FEDERATION ANNUAL WEEKEND - March 22nd-23rd.

Are YOU coming ? If you've been in previous years we feel pretty sure you'll make a point of not missing it. For the benefit of newer members we'll explain that this event is organised each year by the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs to give members of various clubs an opportunity of getting together , and meeting each other in the most informal, pleasant and appropriate way. Walks to and from the camp-site are arranged, with plenty of time allowed for camping and so on. At night there is a camp-fire enlivened by entertainment from the talent of the walking world, followed by delicious coffee and biscuits.

This year the site chosen is an attractive area a couple of miles north-east of Warrandyte, in a large bend on the south side of the Yarra. On the Saturday morning the Victorian Mountain Tramping Club will lead a walk from Lilydale through Wonga Park to the camp-site, and probably the Women's Walking Club will lead an afternoon walk. On Sunday, the University Mountaineers will lead the party back to Eltham. Full details of train times and other arrangements will be published in a leaflet by the Federation, and it is expected that we will have copies next Friday.

THE CAMP-FIRE CONCERT mentioned above is a highlight of the weekend. We want to do our share to make it of really high standard. But it all depends on YOU, the individual members - what are YOU going to do about it ? Individual and group items both have their place, they can be serious or funny, original for preference, and the more appropriate to walking atmosphere the better. Let us have your ideas, even if you haven't polished them up - if you let us know in time, some one else may be able to work out just that sketch that you can't quite get to your satisfaction. We have just five weeks - let's put them to good use.

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THE AUTUMN WALKS PROGRAM

is now available, and may be collected in the Clubroom. We think everyone will be pleased with its new appearance and the tough and durable card used. With warm weather in mind, walks arranged have been shorter, and have included swimming wherever possible.

The trip to the Lerderberg Gorge has had to be cancelled, as this area has suffered in the recent bushfires, but Marie will be leading a walk in another area instead, and details will be found on the notice-board.

There are two trips arranged for the Labour Day weekend. Fred Soutter asks if you are prepared to visit a new area with him, and says he guarantees a pleasurable trip with good views and camp-sites, easy walking, and mentions that he has seen deer and kangaroos in the area. (Now he wants to introduce goats, it seems ! ) Ken Grant promises a very pleasant trip in an area he got to know well when working there last year, with a variety of fine scenery and swimming. Both want to know as soon as possible how many will be taking part, so that transport can be arranged.

Don't forget that booking for van trips must be made a fortnight ahead of trip.

LEADERS - Do you realize that the Program Organizer gets grey hairs searching for leaders, and struggling to arrange enough walks for each Program ? There must be plenty of walkers in the Club with experience and energy - why do they have to be chased every time ? Let's see if we can't co-operate better for the next Program.

Horst Eisfelder was co-opted for the preparation of this Program, and gave very willing and capable service. Another member will be co-opted next time, following this successful experiment.

LIGHTING OF FIRES - - - IMPORTANT !!

You are reminded that on days proclaimed as Days of Acute Fire Danger no fire for any purpose whatsoever must be lit , and that members are cautioned to strictly observe this ruling. With recent disastrous fires in mind, all bushwalkers, we believe, will be extremely careful with fire at any time, keeping camp-fires as small as possible, and making sure they are dead out before leaving them. LEADERS ARE INSTRUCTED TO INSPECT ALL CAMP-FIRES AND ENSURE THEY ARE THOROUGHLY EXTINGUISHED BEFORE LEAVING CAMP-SITE.

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Heard Along the Track - The joys of summer walking !

"Gosh, it's hot!"

"Yeah. I wish the sun would come out."

"Good Heavens, why ?"

"So that we could lie in the shade !"

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" W A L K "

Issue No. 3 continues to sell well, but don't relax your selling efforts. Please hand in any money collected from sale of this or last year's issue promptly - our bank balance is like a baby: we judge its health by the added pounds!

No sooner is one issue launched, than preparation of the next looms in sight. Yes, Editor Norm Richards is again calling for contributions - photos, articles, track notes, stories, a touch of humour, will all find a place - and sets Easter as the date by which he'd like to see them arrive.

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A NEW ADDRESS LIST

is being prepared by the Secretary, so please notify him immediately of any change of address or phone number. No further list will be made for six months, although changes occurring in the meantime will be notified in "THE NEWS" so that members can keep their own lists up to date. A copy of this list will be sent to every member with the March "NEWS".

NEW MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members into the Club, and hope they will spend many happy times with us.

- BITTNER Robert G. 8 Valentine Gve., Armadale, SE.3. U3129 (bus.)MU3809
- CORDEN Gerald M. 107 Murray Street, Sth. Caulfield. LF 2812 (bus.)UM9354
- EDWARDS Margaret J. 25 Milverton St., Burwood, E.13. WM1005 (bus) FJ5111
- KEATLEY William 4 Lucas St., Caulfield, SE.8.
- KOETSLER Tine 70 Albert Ave., Sth. Melb. MX 3533 (bus.)JA6611 Ex.222
- MCDONALD Neil A. 14 Denman St., West Brunswick, N.10. FM2632.
- MOORE Martin B. 24 Warland Rd., Moorabbin, S.20.
- SCULTHORPE Eric A. 141 Brighton Rd., Elwood, S.3.
- STEPHENS Joan P. 2 Braemar St., Essendon, W.5.
- STRATHDEE Henry C/- Nettlefolds Hotel, Sunshine.
- WILENSKI Mark 44 Lygon St., East Brunswick. (bus) FW5897

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FROM THE SOCIAL SUB-COMMITTEE

The Social afternoon at Sandringham was so enjoyable we think it ought to have a place on the Program every summer. There were 36 adults and four children and they all shared in the tea and sponge sandwiches Marie surprised them by producing. 36 have booked for the Theatre Night next Tuesday week - the show is "Kiss Me, Kate".

The Social Secretary has mentioned previously her very good idea of having a barn dance combined with an easy weekend walk. However, she has made wide enquiries and finds it very hard - impossible, so far, in fact - to find a barn !! She has seen many small halls, but many would not be available after midnight on a Saturday, and others are booked ahead. Maybe some member knows of a suitable place, and can help Marie solve the problem, "WHERE CAN WE FIND A BARN ?"

Another request: let the Social Sec. know of any interesting lecturer who would be willing to visit the Club some General Meeting night. Anyone to show the sort of films we would like to see would also be welcome. We are anxious this year to draw up a program well ahead so that members know what they can look forward to.

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PERSONAL

\*\*\*\* We were very sorry to learn that George McKinnon had spent some time in hospital towards the end of last year, but glad that he is now up and about, and hope he will soon be back to full walking strength.

\*\*\* You'll be glad to know the Club is earning dollars - we had a note from Fred & Gisa Heilpern, enclosing three "greenbacks", their annual sub. They send good wishes to all.

\*\*\* We haven't seen much of Pam Abbott since her return, for she's back at Mt. Beauty.

\*\*\* We enjoyed having three old friends back in the Clubroom last Friday - Len Barr, Phyllis Stewart and Margaret Milne. Len is down in Melbourne for a few weeks so we'll be seeing him on a few walks too.

\*\*\* Our good wishes (and a few envious thoughts, maybe) go with Nancy Morgan who sails for Europe on Feb. 23rd. One of her first visits will be to Morocco; other items on her agenda are a walking trip with the Ramblers Association in Jugoslavia, and being in England for the Coronation.

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NOTICE OF MOTION:

Frank Pitt has given notice that he intends to move the following at the next General Meeting:

"That to Clause 7(a) of the Constitution be added the words: 'No member shall be elected President more than four times in succession'."

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LECTURETTES

The first of these informative half-hour talks this year will be given to-night by Keith Murray. Keith is our representative on the Federation Search and Rescue Organization, and he will tell us how it came to be formed, what work it does, and what is planned in its development.

Next month Noble Paine, in dealing with "Bacteria and Food", may save us from future tummy-aches by giving us some clues on how to determine whether our meat is safe to eat, or on the other hand prevent us from wasting some perfectly wholesome goods just because they smell rather "high". And that's quite important when you've carted them for miles!

These talks are arranged for the third meeting night each month, timed to last half an hour, and begin at 8pm sharp! If you are interested in attending, please be punctual. If you do not wish to attend, we request that you wait until after 8.30 before coming in, as constant interruptions are most distracting.

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ALONG THE TRACK

Here's a condensed report from Rex Benn of his A.N.A. Weekend trip - Airey's Inlet, Mogg's Creek, Lorne. The walk motto was, "We leave at 'alf past."

After a 'superior' ride in a parlour coach, our fifteen lunatics camped at a posh camping park at Airey's Inlet. Next morning a unique experience was for the leader to ask the party to be ready to leave at 9.30 am and find them leaving at 8.30 sharp! Lack of exercise on the previous day had left them frisky! After gazing at the lighthouse, we strolled along the beach to Mogg's Creek, where we lingered a while to surf and sunburn. We camped about a mile up Mogg's Creek, which is as beautiful as its name! It was definitely a time-saver, as one had only to heat up the water to have what looked like soup, or tea (or something). As the party was in such a hurry to leave the spot, we were once again on the track by 8.20 am. Believe it or not, that day we walked 20 miles! True, we followed fairly level tracks, and cracked the pace, but a mile or so of scrub-bashing where the track was over-grown left us with little prickly things all down our necks. We stopped for lunch in a dangerous mood, but lo! the geniuses of the party discovered crystal-clear water, and after lunch set off in jovial mood again. Marching rhythmically along the Dean's Marsh Road, we arrived at Lorne about 6.30 pm, and staggered the last little bit up the Erskine River to camp. We were disturbed, not by any honeymoon couples from Lorne but Jock had warned, but by an army of bull ants - only Peter was bitten. Next day saw us travelling back along the Great Ocean Road... and home.

Gerda Schwerin on the same weekend had Baw Baw weather at its worst. Here's her account: The leader managed to mislead 27 members of her party into a somewhat damp camp on the first night out. In fact five of them said "So long" and returned home with the van! Meanwhile she tried to dry out her sleeping bag (her tent had lifted anchor at 4 am!) and cheer her troops. When they started "upp'ds" at 10 am, the party vanished into the clouds! Nine members only went as far as Mt. Phillack, to have enough time for cooking (4pm-8pm) and eating (8pm-9.30pm). The rest camped on Mt. Erica and the whole party came down from the clouds into Ezzards Mill on Sunday to have a very enjoyable half day in SUNSHINE! Monday - Thompson River, Walhalla and Home.

Emil Sladd's party - eight men and a girl! - were cajoled into going a few extra miles to the Eltham Tower by Emil's tales of the caretaker's three beautiful red-haired daughters. What he didn't mention was their age - eldest about ten! He's promised to lead the walk again in ten years. The tower is open again, and they enjoy a fine view from it..... Peter Salmon with a party of four had a good weekend in the Cape Schank area, and found good water in Main Creek..... On the Sunday Warren Olle had five others to keep him company in the rain - sometimes it just poured, but the rest of the time it was really heavy. A puppy attached itself to the party - pups have no sense of discrimination! The party got permission to go into the Olinda Reservoir reserve - apparently the pup thought they had permission to go into the Reservoir, and there was an exciting rescue with a rake. After lunch at Doo Drop Inn they made for Kalerama, feasting on blackberries as they went, and caught the bus home at 3.30 pm.

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DO THESE NEGATIVES BELONG TO YOU ? -- An envelope containing 8 negs. (approx. 2 1/2" by 2 1/2") was left in the Clubroom last Friday. Owner should contact Fay Pitt.

Published by the Melbourne Bushwalkers, 51 Birdwood Street, Box Hill, E.11.