

CIRCULAR

"THE NEWS"

NO. 61.

16th October, 1953.

- THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS -

Address: Room 110, 3rd Floor, Victorian Railways Institute,
Flinders Street, Melbourne.

GENERAL MEETING (BUSINESS) - 30th October.

This is an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting to elect a social secretary, made necessary by the resignation of our former secretary, Mrs. Win Downes.

AUSTRALIAN NATURE SHOW - 20th, 21st, 22nd October. (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
at the PRAHRAN CITY HALL, Greville Street, PRAHRAN.

There are 26 Sections to be exhibited, which include wildflowers, a geological model showing the age of Australia, a working geiger counter and a uranium exhibit, mineral specimens and a working model drill, and many other features.

Those who unfortunately could not attend the very interesting and successful weekend for "Field Study of Snakes", will have an opportunity at this Show to see Messrs. Ian and Ron Wallace again demonstrate their live snakes, ie. "milking" them, etc. The Show is open to the general public from 4 pm. to 10 pm. Admission - adults 2/-. Children 1/-.

SOCIAL NOTE:

Congratulations to Heather and John Marshall who have a son, Iain McGilvray, born on the 29th September.

NEW ADDRESS:

Hedi Kraus, 73 Alma Road, St. Kilda. Tel. (p) LA.2915.

LIBRARY NOTE:

Members are advised that there is a manilla folder, marked "News" - "The Melbourne Bushwalkers", in the cupboard for Library copies of the "News". If members have not received their copy of the "News" they should see Win Bennett, who distributes it, and has charge of all extra copies, rather than taking odd copies from the cupboard, which are being kept for official records.

SEARCH AND RESCUE NOTES:

The following is a list of the members who were on duty at the Donna Buang Search:-

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Becker, P. | 8. Lowe, J. | 16. Salmon, P. |
| 2. Cole, A. | 9. Middleton, K. | 17. Slade, E. |
| 3. Coutts, G. | 10. McKinney, G. | 18. Smellie, D. |
| 4. Enye, G. | 11. Olle, W. | 19. Smith, J. |
| 5. Horton, W. | 12. Pitt, F. | 20. Soutter, F. |
| 6. Kirk, E. | 13. Richards, N. | 21. Wolff, H. |
| 7. Lavender, E. | 14. Reynolds, L. | |
| | 15. Robins, A. | |

CONTACT: Richards, E. (p) WX.5450.

SEARCH AND RESCUE NOTES (Cont'd)

If any member ever desires to have their employer thanked or informed, remember they have only to inform their contact, who will make the necessary arrangements.

NOTE: Don't forget to leave your contact's name and phone number at home before you leave on a walk, (Contact - Edna Richards, 17 Howard Street, Box Hill. E.11, (p) WX.5450). If anyone is unduly worried about you, it will be much easier all round, if they get in touch with the contact, who assures us she doesn't mind at what time of day or night she is called.

COMING EVENTS:

- Oct. 18 - KINGLAKE-MT. JERUSALEM-QUEENSTOWN (12 Miles) Van. Lloyd Reynolds. U.9356.
 Oct. 24-25 - Malmsbury-Casltmaine. Gerda Schwerin (Hiker's Ticket - 8.15 am.)
 Oct. 25 - MT. EVELYN-MT. DANDENONG-BORONIA. (Mt. Ev. Boronia Hiker's Ticket)
 Leader. Win Bennett.
 Nov. 1 - NARRE WARREN NTH-LYSTERFIELD RESERVOIR-HENY PARK-DANDENONG.
 (2nd Ret. Dandenong) Leader, Neil MacDonald.
 Nov. 7-8 - PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND (Barbecue). Watch Notice Board for details.
 Nov. 15 - JOHN'S JUNCTION-MT. ST. LEONARD-MAROONDAH AQUEDUCT-HEALESVILLE.
 (Van - Leader, Karl Bing.)
 Nov. 15 - " " " " " - BARNES' JUNCTION-CONDON'S GULLY-
 MAROONDAH RESERVOIR. (Van - Leader, Emeric Binet.)

XMAS CARDS. XMAS CARDS. XMAS CARDS. XMAS CARDS. XMAS CARDS.

These will be available for overseas mail by the end of October, and for the local mail, at the end of November. Plain cards for the addition of members' own photographs or decoration, and others with a lino-cut design will be available from Frank Pitt. The cost will be 3d. for the plain cards, and 6d. complete.

If you are unable to collect cards from the clubroom, write or ring Frank at WX.6554 (address, 51 Birdwood Street, Box Hill. E.11), and orders over 2/- will be posted.

XMAS WALKS.

Xmas and holidays are not far away now, and very soon we shall need to make definite plans about them. Once again those members who wish to go on a Xmas Walk are advised to make an early decision, and so help the leaders of these Walks to make their arrangements.

There are many preparations to be made! Are your boots well-soled? Have you replaced worn hob-nails with new ones? Did you know that if your boots are new and stiff, they can be softened sufficiently by using neatsfoot oil, mixtures of beeswax and neatsfoot oil and vaseline, or even just hot beef fat rubbed in well while the boot is slightly warm. Food quantities must be planned and tent and groundsheet adequately waterproofed.

New members intending to go on their first extended walk are especially advised to give early consideration to the need for a minimum of clothing and other articles, usually considered necessary on an ordinary weekend, and to an adequate food diet. An intelligently planned pack weighing 35 lbs., 32 lbs., 30 lbs. or even less (according to the no. of days) adds much to the enjoyment of a long walk. These are suitable weights for girls, especially those who have not experienced carrying a pack for more than a weekend. Early consideration to these details will ensure that there is no last minute "stuffing", which results in an unweildy pack, so heavy that it makes the trip unnecessarily arduous.

There are many other small, but important points to think about, and new members are advised to contact their leaders for advice on such matters, or to read Paddy Pallin's "Camping" booklet, obtainable from Frank Pitt (2/-) and which gives details of food required on long walks.

XMAS WALKS (Cont'd)

Members should also remember that they are expected to go on at least four camping weekends, as training for the Xmas trips. Besides ensuring physical fitness, this gives you an opportunity to test out your gear and your "packing ideas".

Here again are the Xmas Walks, of which details are on the Notice Board.

BOGONG HIGH PLAINS: Alf Cole (Dec 24 - Jan 3)

Those who have limited leave at Xmas can join van trip for :-

- (a) 6 days returning from Bogong by the Staircase Spur to Tawonga.
- (b) 8 days returning from Pretty Valley by the S.E.C. road to Mt. Beauty and Tawonga.

TASMANIA: Lorraine Richey (25 Dec - 10 Jan). Edna is now unable to lead this walk because of unforeseen circumstances, and fortunately Lorraine has taken over the leadership.

SOUTH-WEST TASMANIA: Peter Becker (25 Dec - 10 Jan).

BUCKLAND VALLEY-MT. SELWYN-BRYCE'S PLAINS-LICOLA: Gerda Schwerin (24 Dec- 3Jan)

WILSON'S PROMONTORY: Mary Nash. (4 or 5 days over the Xmas).

"ON THE TRACK".

MOE-HARRACAN CREEK-HAUNTED HILLS-MOE. (Graeme McKinney - Sept. 13).

This trip was favoured with a clear, sunny, Spring day, some pleasant pastoral views, and made memorable by the verbal roasting given to the chap who commented that Americans make better actors than the English. We didn't arrive at Moe till almost midday, but decided to cover some of the walk to justify the midday meal; and a nice appetiser it was - of rough brush; a patch of felled saplings with a sprinkling of cordwood stacks; a spell on the edge of a reservoir; and a spill into a grass-covered soak tightly wedged between two deep, precipitous gully walls. The middle section of the day's walk descended through succulently grassy slopes down into the Harracan, and out and up again into the Haunted Hills, so named because the coal-bearing ground so resounds the hollow echo of hooves, that bewildered and frightened travelling stock are put to flight.

High up on these grassy slopes a rebellious element (the famished) somehow took control, and wheeled the straggling group onto lawn-like surroundings of a pleasant little brook - for dinner. The long outstretched valley below sheltered the idle Harracan through the hills, contented herds grazed about the sunny slopes and an odd vehicle meandered its course amongst the trees far below. In spite of the understandable reluctance to "get cracking" - a couple with more willpower than the rest rooted us out and down hill, across the Harracan, out and up to become engulfed, this time, in the brush of the Haunted area - engulfed till a road conveniently appeared, and so we struck out for Moe's refreshments and the train home.

MT. JULIET-MT. DONNA BUANG. (Alf Cole - Sept. 26-27).

A torchlight walk to the campsite at the foot of Juliet, followed the completion of the party when, as three of us alighted from the bus, a Riley purred to a stop, a door opened and a bare leg emerged, followed by Felix and friend. An early start the next morning, and from the top of Juliet in some six inches of snow, we saw a clear view. After leaving Juliet, there are recollections of taking bearings, of plunging ankle deep through snow and edging along logs, some feet above the ground, thus moving along the ridge and along spurs, and descending gullies to ascertain the direction of the creeks, because we had been moving along the spurs.

A snow camp proved not only possible to have but possible in which to survive. There was a communal mattress of leaves, ground sheets and tents, a fire, some snow and dehy. in the billies, some quotations of Shakespeare and a clear sunrise through the open timber of the ridge. Sunday brought more snow, and logs, and views of, and the climax - views from the tower of Donna Buang.

Late in the afternoon we descended into the Yarra Valley which was flushed in the fading sunlight. As we approached Warburton we heard a train whistle so we rested and Graeme produced some fruit salad and cream while we produced some containers and spoons. We caught the bus at seven and after a murmured order from the back to "set on and leave no ceremony alone," we came home.

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" VISIT "AUSKI" FOR YOUR WALKING SUPPLIES "

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" Paddy Pallin's New Prices: for "Kossie" Sleeping Bags. "

	<u>Featherdown</u>	<u>Superdown</u>
Regular: 5' 10"	£9.19. 0.	£11.11.3.
Long: 6' 2"	£10. 3. 0.	£11.18.6.
Extra Long: 6' 6"	£10 12. 6.	£12.12.6.

"

" Paddy Pallin Japara Groundsheet-Capes with Hoods. "

" 6' 6' 4" (£2.6.0.) 6' 6' 4" P.V.B. (£2.9.0.) "

"

" New Supplies of Windjackets (Japara, proofed) "

" Double-shoulders (£3.4.0.) Completely double (£4.10.6) "

" Miscellaneous Items:- Blanket pins (4d.) for carrying "

" mitts on belts. "

" Aluminium plates (3/-) Plastic food boxes (3/4, 2/5) "

" Rubber Pads 3/4" (5/6) Nivea Cream, Solkream (sunburn) "

" "Krafter" barbecue (10/6d): a folding, metal support "

" for cooking. "