



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 259

October, 1970

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ABOUT WILKINSON LODGE

Wilkinson Lodge (generally referred to as "Wilky"), is situated on the edge of the Bogong High Plains, seven road miles from Falls Creek. It was built in 1932 as a S.E.C. gauging station to determine water flow into the then proposed Rocky Valley dam. The lodge has been owned by our Club for the past ten years and is used in many ways:

as an overnight stop on an extended walking tour

as a ski lodge in winter as a base for ski touring

and

as a holiday resort for Club members, especially those with young families.

Many fine day walks may be taken from the lodge across some of the best scenic country in Australia.

Amenities in the hut include running water, stainless steel sink, wash basin, shower, septic system, slow combustion stove, crockery, cutlery, cooking utensils, warmray heater in lounge room, table chairs library, keorsene pressure lamps, upstairs sleeping accommodation on thin mattresses.

Nominal fees are charged for the use of the lodge, these provide for the maintenance and insurance etc.

2 day weekend - \$1 per person

3 day weekend - \$1.50 per person

+ 50 cents per person per night thereafter

Visitors are 70c per person per night

Travel to the lodge is by private car, these can be parked within 100 yards of the lodge in fine weather. Travelling time from Melbourne is 6 to 7 hours distance 250 miles. People wishing to use the lodge must have previously visited there with an experienced member to learn how to operate the hot water system etc. They might then apply to the Lodge Manager, Peter Carlyon 68-6027 to borrow a set of keys to the locked road barrier and doors of the lodge. Advance booking is necessary for peak periods of the year, e.g. Xmas-New Year, Easter, September school holidays, long weekends etc.

All correspondence should be addressed:

Hon. Sec., Melbourne Bushwalkers,
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.,
MELBOURNE Victoria 3001

Meetings are held in the Clubrooms, Hosier Lane, at the rear of the Forum Theatre, every Wednesday night at 8.00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

EXTRACTS FROM THE COMMITTEE MEETING

12th October, 1970

Chairman: Alec Proudfoot

Present: Sue Ball, Roger Brown, Jenny Mead, Barbara Davies, Margaret Wark, Tyrone Thomas, Rod. Mattingley, Peter Carlyon, John Sparksman, Rex Filson, Robyn and Doug Pocock, Graeme Mascas, Athol Schafer, Judy Shegog.

Apologies: Dorrie Warton

Treasurer's Report:

The Club's financial position is a little down on last month's but finances are still good. The Club's membership stands at a record 200.

Walk Secretary's Report:

There were 142 walkers during the last month of which 33 were visitors. It was decided that a note would be attached to "Application for Membership Forms" suggesting that when handing in the form, the prospective member pay the subscription fee, thereby saving payment of visitors fees until such time as their application had been considered and accepted by the Committee.

"NEWS" Convenor's Report:

The resignation of the present "NEWS" Convenor was accepted. Barbara Davies has kindly accepted to act in this capacity until the Annual General Meeting next year. It was decided that the Club would purchase a typewriter for the use of future "NEWS" Convenors.

Wilkinson Lodge Report:

Peter reported that the Lodge is in readiness the the Club weekend there in late November - see details on front page.

Federation Report:

The Federation has taken a stand opposing the road over Baw Baw. It feels that this area is one of the few areas of wilderness left in Victoria and that it should be left in this condition. It urges that political pressure be brought to bear for the plan to be abandoned.

General Business:

Applications were received and accepted from Suzanne Hamilton and Peter Birch.

The Committee decided that those proposing to partake in Club walks over the Christmas/New Year period must undertake at least one weekend walk before now and the time of departure.

WALK PREVIEWSDAY WALKS:

November

- 1 BACK CREEK-EGG ROCK-TOMAHAWK GAP-MT. BEENAK
 Leader: Peta Le Page p) 25-3739 Medium
 Map reference: Gembrook 1:50,000
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.50
 All of you who have been greatly disappointed by the number of successful walks completed this year will be glad to know that at least your opportunity has come. The leader is almost 100% sure to lose anyone in sight. The walk will mainly be up and down but with slightly more ups than downs. The views from both the Egg Rock Tower and Mt. Beenak are worthwhile seeing. You will need to bring water for lunch.
- 3 CUP DAY YARRA GLEN-HIGHBROW HILL-PINNACLES
 Leader: Kel Wilson p) 546-6171 Easy/Medium
 Train leaves Flinders Street Station 8.15 a.m. Buy
 2nd return to Yarra Glen ticket, cost \$1.02
- 15 WERRIBEE GORGE-THE ISLAND
 Leader: Dave Gibson Easy
 Map reference: Ballan 1 mile
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.50
 Expected time of return 7.00 p.m.
 A short walk/climb/scramble/swim (delete activities not required) in the gorge adjacent to the Lerderderg Gorge which is well known to many members of the Club. Sleeping bags will not be required.
FAMILY WALK WERRIBEE GORGE
 Leader: Dorothy Davies p) 45-7545
 Map reference: Ballan Military 1:63,360
 Following the aqueduct, the family walk will lunch by the river. A wood supply is guaranteed. Those wanting a longer walk can go further up the Gorge while the children play on the rocks during an extended lunch hour, or in the water if it's hot enough.
- 22 CATHKIN-MT. MAXWELL-MT. CONCORD-YARCK
 Leader: Barbara Davies p) 45-7545 Medium
 Map reference: (Lands Dept.) Alexandra 1:50,000
 (provisional only)
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Expected time of return 8.30 p.m. Fare \$2.20
 Here is a wonderful opportunity for you to see some of Victoria's higher mountains while leisurely walking along the Black Range. But alas! A 1,500' climb up a clear grassy spur is the only way to get there! So come along and enjoy lunch with a panoramic view. The walk will finish with a 1,200' descent through light timber to the township of Yarck. Carry water for lunch.
- 29 LAKE MOUNTAIN-KEPPELS FALLS-TALBOT DRIVE
 Leader: Barbara Goldfinch p) 89-6070 Easy/Medium
 Map reference: State Aerial Survey Juliet B
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.80
 The walk will be from Lake Mountain through to Talbot Drive via Keppels Falls over which there should be a good fall of water. The walk will mostly be along country roads with little climbing I hope!

WALK PREVIEWS (Contd.)WEEKEND WALKS:

- November 7-8 PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND FRYERSTOWN-CROCODILE RESERVOIR
 Van leaves Batman Avenue 1.30 p.m. Fare \$2.10
 The President and his Committee will be "AT HOME" to members of the Club and friends at Crocodile Reservoir Fryerstown (near Castlemaine).
 There are plenty of good camp sites under the trees along the shores of the lake and plenty of walks through the surrounding countryside where even the President is not likely to get lost.
 Set aside this weekend now.
 Saturday evening meal is provided à la Cordon Bleu (very burnt chops, bread, coffee, sauce etc.) Mulled wine may be on tap and all those amenities appropriate to high living.
 Watch the notice board for further details.
- 13-15 EAGLES PEAKS-THE GOVERNORS-JAMIESON HUT-THE BLUFF Medium
 Leader: Tyrone Thomas p) 89-5197
 Map reference: 1:50,000 Jamieson
 Private transport. Approximate distance 13 miles of medium variety.
 A short walk but one in which we will climb three peaks of 5,000 feet and more, namely Eagles Peaks, The Governor and The Bluff. We will climb the Governor and The Bluff without packs and will camp overnight by the Jamieson River. It will be a round trip from Rocky Range Saddle and is mostly on pleasant walking tracks and alpine grassland.
- 20-22 MT. TAMBORITHA-THE CRINOLINE-WELLINGTON RIVER Medium/Hard
 Leader: Art Terry p) 93-3617
 Map reference: Forests Commission - Wellington 1"=1 Mile
 Private transport will leave Batman Avenue 6.30 p.m.
 Thrill to the glory of Victoria's untouched mountain peaks - guaranteed no jeep tracks all weekend.
 We will camp near Licola on Friday night and drive up to Tamboritha saddle on Saturday morning. Bring water for lunch both days as we will be following the ridge all the way. The Crinoline, with its spectacular reddish cliffs will be assaulted on Sunday morning. Contrary to usual practice, there will be a steep descent after lunch to the Wellington where the peasants can besport themselves in the cleansing waters while the drivers collect the cars. If numbers permit, we may hire a couple of transit vans.
 N.B. The route may have to be changed if the Forests Commission have not finished clearing the landslide on the road just south of Tamboritha Saddle.
- 20-22 BULLARTO-BARRYS REEF-TRENTHAM Medium
 Leader: Mario Attard p) 544-8493
 Train leaves Spencer Street Station 8.10 a.m. Buy 2nd return ticket to Bullarto. Cost \$4.25

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WALK PREVIEWS (Contd.)

WEEKEND WALKS:

November 27-29 WILKINSON LODGE BOGONG HIGH PLAINS

Leader: Peter Carlyon p) 68-6027

Easy

Owing to the number of people who have approached the leader regarding this trip, he referred this matter to the Committee meeting on 12th October. They decided that it would be preferable to have approximately two thirds of the party consisting of members who have not visited Wilky before and one third of members who have been there before. The maximum number that the lodge can hold is 15 and as tents are not permitted to be pitched outside, the limit is definitely 15. Preference may be given to those people who are able to supply cars (at least three will be needed). The booking list will be placed on the Club notice board on Wednesday 4th November and no telephone bookings will be accepted. Because of overcrowding, it would be advisable to bring a choofa or gas stove to cook on. Open fires are not allowed outside.

If there are more people wishing to attend than we can accommodate, a second trip will be run on the weekend of December 11-13, similar arrangements applying.

DUTY ROSTER

28th October - Rod Mattingley
4th November - Robyn Pocock

11th November - Rex Filson
18th November - Roger Brown

NOTES

Additions to the Spring Programme - There will be two other walks to Wilsons Promontory on the weekend of December 4-6, in addition to the one on the Programme. Michael Garner will be leading a walk to Refuge Cove and Waterloo Bay; classified 'Easy'. The other walk will be a 'Hard' one to South Point and Roaring Meg and will be led by Art Terry.

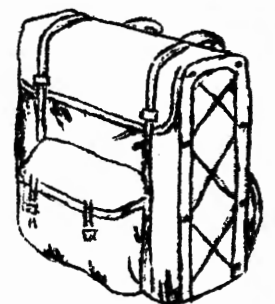
Change of Address - Gwynnyth Taylor - P.O. Box 52, Montrose 3765
p) 728-1764

If readers have browsed through the 'Extracts of the Committee Meeting' they will know that I have somewhat regretfully submitted my resignation as News Converor and that this is my last "NEWS". I sincerely thank all those who have contributed articles to "NEWS" during the last twelve months, and hope that you will support the new News Convenor, Barbara Davies, as you have me.

Jenny Mead.

AUSKI 9 Hardware St.
Phone 67 1412

The Bushwalking Specialist
Paddymade equipment, Packs, etc.





TOOLANGI - PAULS RANGE - SCHOOLHOUSE RIDGE

The van leaves 38 walkers at Toolangi Post Office on a pleasant spring day. The walk starts on the main road, Toolangi now being somewhat more built up since the issue of the Yan Yean Military map. Past "Adden" where C.J. Dennis wrote his poetry then take to the bush. Now a back road with views down to the Yarra Valley before taking to the track on Pauls Range.

Hakeas and wattles well in bloom, hairpin banksia looking glorious, the early orchids in bloom, blackboys along the track. Lunch under threatening skies, two spits of rain then clear again. Further we follow Pauls Range, glimpses of St. Leonard on our left and Mt. Slide on our right. Down, down and in a maze of track the aqueduct is reached, positive identification of position.

One mile to the van and back to Melbourne after a pleasant spring walk.

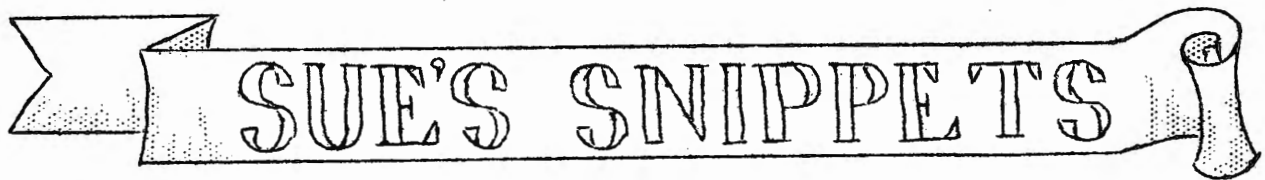
Doug Pocock

WHEN IS A LEADER NOT A LEADER?

Saturday morning and a late rising party drifts sleepily about the picnic ground. The sun has been up for hours and the birds have long ended their morning chorus, but no-one seems willing to move, so the leader, disgusted with his slow witted friends, goes off alone to explore. Finally realising he has actually gone, the 16 who are interested in the caves make their devious ways around and under the rocks, while the others sit outside enjoying the sunshine. Some luckier ones, led by Spencer's incredible navigation, find the Seal Rock. But all find they are expected to walk four miles to the next camp site. Mt. Kooyoora is reached after a leisurely stroll through pleasant country with botanies blooming everywhere, a delight to the eyes.

A search for water finds a small spring at the foot of the mountains, and then we become very choosy about pitching our tents, every few yards presenting a spot prettier than the last. Never have I seen such a wealth of grassy, flowery, boulder edged sites for camping. Eventually we settle for the valley floor, with the rocky slopes of the mountain overlooking us. Some recuperate in camp, others spend the afternoon wandering the hills, admiring the strange shapes of the great boulders.

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SUE'S SNIPPETS

The trip to Tassie must have really been the sealer for Bruce and Jill. They were married only a week after their return. Congratulations and all the very best to you.

Art Terry has recently heard from Johnnie Rogers in London that he is expecting to be back in Melbourne in a couple of weeks time. It will be good to see him in the Club rooms again.

Best wishes to our incapacitated Hon. Sec. Dorrie is presently recovering from a cartilage operation. Hope to see you out on the track again soon, Dorrie.

Our family walks resume on 15th November with a walk led by Dorothy Davies into the Werribee Gorge.

Congratulations to Barb. Goldfinch on attaining her majority. Barb. got the key to the door on 2nd October.

The "Wandering Brownlies" are expected to return about the end of November. If you would like to come to the Welcome Home Party (this will be at a weekend) ring Gwynnyth Taylor (728-1764 evenings) or drop a line to P.O. Box 52 Montrose 3765 and she'll see that you are notified of the date. All welcome.

And a word from Graeme Mascas. "Never has so much (Club room cleaning) been owed by so many (over 200 members) to so few (the 6 cleaners who turned up!)" With apologies - but please there is about 15-18 hours work on a cleaning day and many hands would make the work much lighter. Thanks to the six, who did a good job.

N.P.P.S. FIELD DAY

VISIT TO THE LABERTOUCHE AREA WILDFLOWER RESERVE

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER 1970

Meeting at 11 a.m. at the turnoff to Labertouche, off the Princes Highway (approx. 53½ miles from Melbourne). Bring picnic lunch - family and friends welcome.

If transport is required, please contact Mrs. Faithful 29-5108.

ALONG THE TRACK (Contd.)

Sunday dawns fine and warm, and the leader, deciding there is really no alternative to walking back to Melville's caves, finally gathers his reluctant party together despite the dissenters, and ambles around the hills.

Blue skies, warm sunshine, (grumble, grumble) wild flowers blooming, birds singing, (complain, complain) 10 minutes rest every 20 minutes, (grizzle, grizzle).

He seems determined to ignore the road, and for some perverse reason sticks to the park like forest, much to the disgust of some who berate him bitterly for his inconsideration. (Who is leading this walk anyway?)

After this harrowing morning's stroll our sadistic leader allows us only three hours for lunch, (groan, groan) then force-marches us another two miles through the bush, (mumble, mumble) still ignoring the road, and despite remonstrances and disputation all around, leads us happily and unerringly to the van.

For the 1% who was interested in botanising, we had to do without an expert, but who cared anyway? A botany by any other name would smell as sweet!! (But we missed ya, Rex.)

Our patient and forebearing leader really turned on the weather, the scenery and the flowers all to perfection.

Thank you, Michael, for one of the most enjoyable weekend walks ever.

Alma Strappazon

THE LEADERS DIGEST (HEARTBURN)

After walking with the Club for a while I have discovered some interesting facts on some of the leaders of the walks and have compiled them for your interest.

Art - a hill every $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, less if you're lucky
 Tyrone - terrifying fences and easy downhill walks?
 Alec - always disagreeing with Dorrie
 Rex - no good if you're a landlubber, rather damp
 Roger - roadbashes, strictly for tourists
 John - for easy walks which become cliff hangers
 Eddy - forever talking, forever misplaced
 Alan - for people who like crossing the same creek numerous times
 Fred - forever looking for hollow mountain, still has not found it

"One of the Group"