



THE NEWS

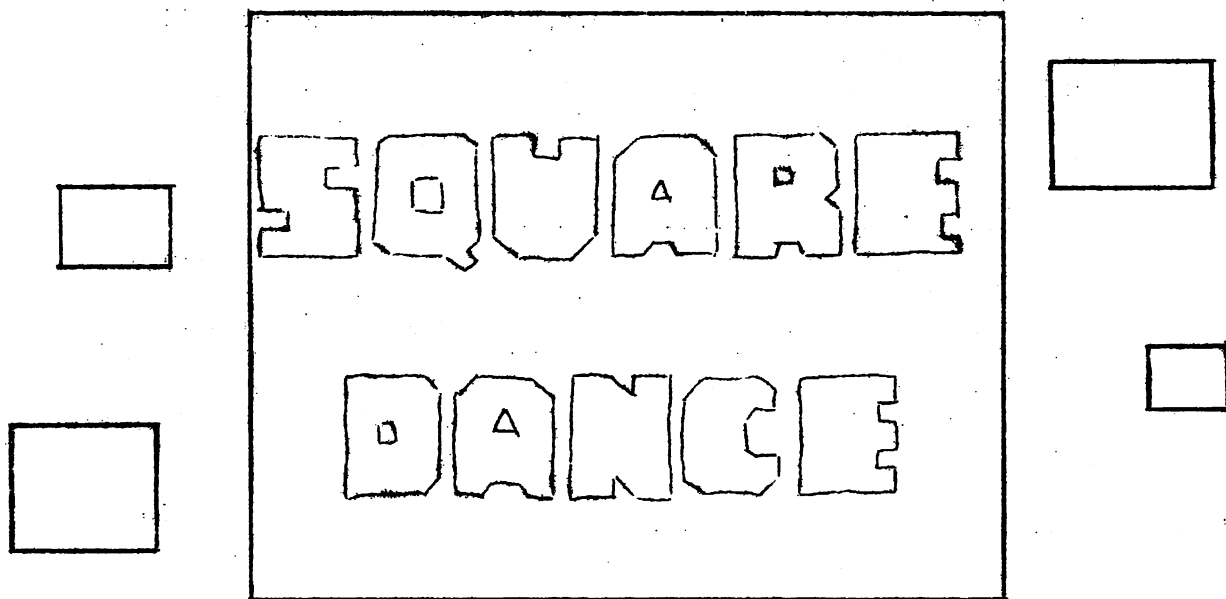
OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 279

JUNE, 1972

Price 3¢

Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical.



WHEN SATURDAY 1st, JULY

WHERE BADGER CREEK HALL (Near Healesville)

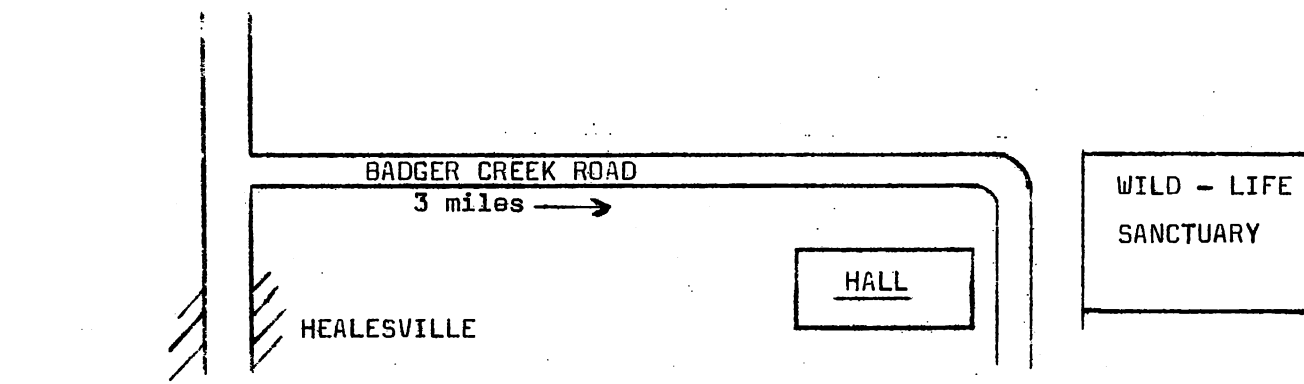
COST ONLY \$1

DANCE CALLER KEN HOOKE (He's terrific!)

WHAT TO WEAR ? COUNTRY - FOLK STYLE CLOTHES

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM OUR SOCIAL SECRETARY,

DONT MISS OUT



* COMING SOCIAL EVENTS *

July 5th Talk on Snow Walking & Camping by Bruce Meincke.

July 19th Talk & slides on travels in Kathmandu & the foothills of the Himalayas by Tim Dent.

Deadline for July News is Wednesday 5th July, THAT INCLUDES WALK PREVIEWS !! to BARBARA DAVIES, 2/29 Yarra Street, Hawthorn, 3122 p) 81 2956. Thanks to all contributors to this issue and to Helen for typing. Thanks to Ann for typing half the News for me before she left Melbourne, IS ANYBODY GOING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ON THE RECENT FIRE IN WYPERFLOO NATIONAL PARK?

WALK PREVIEWSDAY WALKSJuly 1 HEALESVILLE AREA

A new leader is required to lead this walk as the Social Secretary will be unavailable. Please contact the Walks Secretary if you would like to volunteer.

Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.00. Easy

July 9 KILMORE - MT. PIPER - BROADFORD

Leader: Ralph Bryan p) 762 2095 Easy

Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.75. Expected time of return 7.00 p.m. Distance Approx. 10 miles.

This is a pleasant walk mostly through open, undulating farm country. The highlight will be the climb up Mt. Piper, which is short but steep, with good views from the top.

July 16 BROWN RANGE - MT. HICKEY - MURCHISON GAP

Leader: Stewart Moroney Medium

Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.00. Expected time of return 7.30 p.m. Map reference: Tallaraook 1" = 1 mile.

Lunch will be at the top of Mt. Hickey, so it will be advisable to bring water. Good views are to be had from the summit and for the rest of the walk. The walk finishes at the spectacular Murchison Gap.

July 23 RYE BACK BEACH - LONDON BRIDGE

Medium

Leader: Joy Seymour p) 81 2956

Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$2.00.

Map Reference: Broadbent's Mornington Peninsula.

For those who like to see the wild ocean surf in the winter, come along on this walk and enjoy the views. Bring your togs if "swimming" is desired but warm clothes might be more suitable! Bring your own water, or flasks for lunch.

July 30 MONTROSE - OLD COACH ROAD - SILVAN

Leader: Spencer George Easy

Van leaves Batman Avenue 9.15 a.m. Fare \$1.50. Expected time of return 7.00 p.m. Map reference: Monbulk 1:50,000.

A relaxing walk along tracks amongst the tall trees of the State Forest, with some views of the distant mountain ranges. A warm sunny day has been ordered, and a long lunchtime is planned.

WEEKEND WALKSJuly 7-9 SNOW WALK & LANGLAUF SKIING - MT. STIRLING

Leader: Tim Dent b) 60 0221 ext. 387 Medium

Private Transport & Transit Vans (if necessary). Fare \$6.00 6.30 p.m. from Batman Avenue.

Map Reference: V.M.T.C. "Watersheds of the King, Howqua & Jamieson rivers" 1" = 1 mile.

Beginners' snow weekend to try your hand (and legs) at Langlauf skiing, and snow camping for those who wish.

Distance and grading of this outing will depend on the party, who must be reasonably fit, and possess the appropriate equipment.

A visit will be made to Mts. Stirling & Buller (via tracks from Woollybutt Saddle) if the party is considered capable.

July 14-16 SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTICE

No details to hand yet. Contact Tim Dent or Bob Steel for information.

21-23 WARBY RANGES

Leader: Eddy Lawton Easy/Medium

Van leaves Batman Avenue 6.30 p.m. Fare: \$5.00. Expected time of return 9.00 p.m. Map Reference: Wangaratta 1:100,000.

(Cont. Page 3.)

WALK PREVIEWS (CONTINUED).

Approximate distance 12 miles.

The Warby Ranges offer pleasant walking through lightly timbered country, with excellent views of distant snow-covered peaks along the Great Dividing Range, and of the vineyards at Taminick. There will be water at Saturday night's campsite, but water will have to be brought for breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Numerous man-eating grass trees will be encountered on the Sunday!

28-30 SNOW WALK - MT. FEATHERTOP

Leader: Bruce Meincke p) 306 2428

Medium

Transport: Private & Transit Vans 6.30 p.m. from Batman Avenue.

Fare \$7.00(!) Map Refer. cc. Hotham-Falls Creek Alpine Area No. 1 Aerial Survey 4" = 1 mile.

CARRY AT LEAST TWO PINTS OF WATER as water supply is unreliable.

This promises to be an extremely rewarding walk for views so come along and experience a weekend on Mt. Feathertop in the snow.

360° views of the snow-covered Alpine country are guaranteed if the weather is clear. We will climb up the Bungalow Spur from Harrietville to the Federation Hut & old sign post sight to set up camp in the snow (not in the huts). Also camping sights near the old Federation Hut. We will then climb to the peak of Mt.

Feathertop after lunch on Saturday and on Sunday morning again. Descent will be via the Bungalow Spur on Sunday Afternoon. This walk is suitable for those with no previous experience of snow walking & camping. Be sure to be in the clubrooms at 8 p.m. on 5th July to hear my talk on all the details of snow walking & camping. Notes will be handed out also.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

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

Meetings are held in the club rooms, 14 Hosier Lane, at the rear of the Forum Theatre, every Wednesday night at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

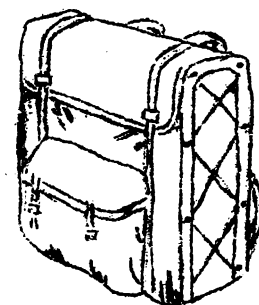
THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT HAS DECIDED IT IS TIME FOR ANOTHER CLEAN-UP OF THE CLUBROOMS. Now, the previous responses from club members to requests for volunteers has been somewhat pathetic to say the least, so PLEASE GIVE OF AN HOUR OR TWO after work on Thursday 6th July as nobody wants dirty clubrooms do they?? The more helpers there are, the less time it will take of course. Come along as soon as possible after 5 p.m. on that day. Please let Graham Mascas know of your intention of helping this necessary task. Phone him on 50 2995. By the way, there is now a FIRST AID KIT in the kitchen.

Winter visitors to Wilkinson Lodge PLEASE NOTE! Sue Ball will be in charge of Wilky for the next 3 months while Darrell Sullivan is away. Sue will handle all bookings for winter parties.

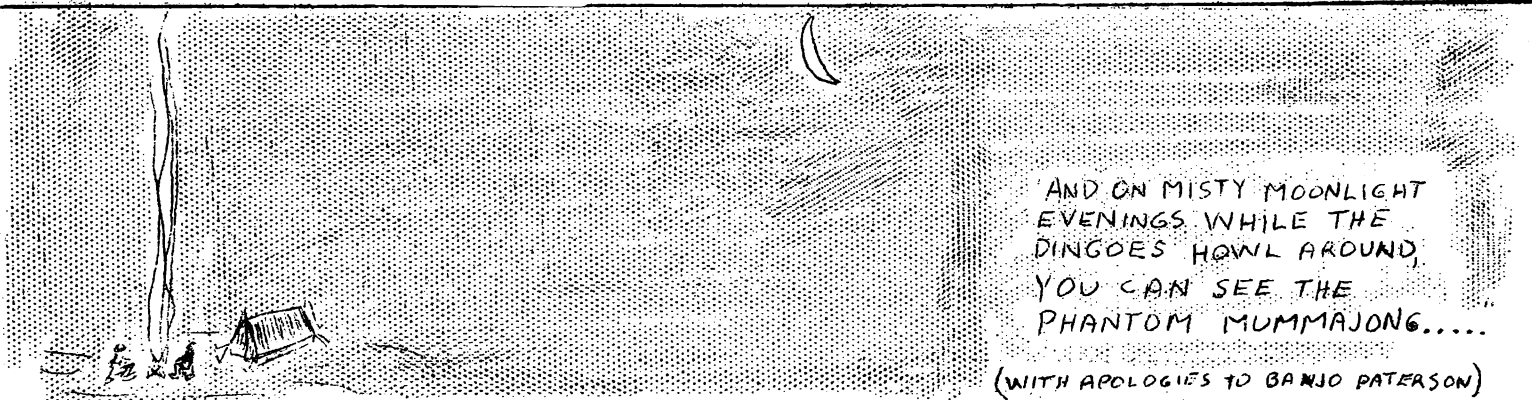
There will be a one day TRACK CLEARING in the Ada Valley sometime during August. See Art Terry for details.

The Updated edition of the Club By-Laws will be issued with Next month's News but copies will be available in the clubrooms in about a fortnight's time for those who may require them beforehand. Apologies for the delay.

AUSKI 9 Hardware St.
Phone 67 1412



The Bushwalking Specialist
Paddymade equipment, Packs, etc.



AND ON MISTY MOONLIGHT
 EVENINGS WHILE THE
 DINGOES HOWL AROUND,
 YOU CAN SEE THE
 PHANTOM MUMMAJONG.....

(WITH APOLOGIES TO BANJO PATERSON)

Who was the T.T. (Tourist Type) who went on the recent Puffing Billy trip all dressed up in his latest gear, carrying lunch in hand.

MISSING PERSON ANNOUNCEMENT

Would anyone knowing the whereabouts of Dave Oldfield please get in contact with the Club. He was last seen leaving the clubroom last October in the company of an attractive female whom he met during the President's weekend. Now we all know Dave to be quite capable of looking after himself, but I fear he may have succumbed to feminine wiles and is now (I can't say it).

From now on it will be my great pleasure from time to time to announce Mummajong's "Golden Double Sleeping Bag" Award. This will be bestowed on those individuals, who, in my opinion, have shown by deed that they are prepared to sacrifice a large measure of self-comfort in order that someone less fortunate (usually female) than themselves is allowed at least a modicum of comfort and warmth for the night. This month it is a double award and goes to those two Quixotes of the Quilt, those two Maniacs of the Mattress, namely (censored) and (censored) for their sterling performances last month.

Some people at Rod's party were given an exhibition of Ham acting. Unfortunately, a few missed it.

Our Secretary didn't play up at the above mentioned party after promising us that she would. We were most disappointed, but never mind Joy, you will have another opportunity soon (see last paragraph).

It appears that those two Casanovas, Les and Dave, are sharing a house with others in Caulfield, so if you are in the area, you are quite welcome to drop in (with the usual half dozen of course).

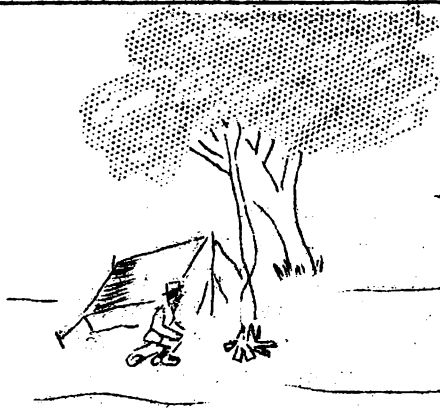
It's true, she thought "Dorset Gardens" was a horticultural centre.

A gentle reminder to Sue
 For her next folk night do,
 Don't invite you know who
 If you don't like "Lloyd George" too

I shall take this opportunity to foreshadow a psychedelic booze-up at the house of Geoff Greenwood sometime in the near future. A novel feature of the evening will be that as people arrive, they will be asked to do their thing on a large sheet of paper, kindly provided by mine host (the mind boggles). I would say that this turn has all the makings of a bonzer Bacchanalian binge. Everyone is bound to have yards (get that Leigh?) of fun.

Mummajong

Congratulations to Roger & Denise Brown on their recent marriage. Good wishes to Michael & Ann Garner on their marriage also. Who's Next ???



ALONG THE TRACK

THE MAJOR MITCHELL GALAHS

Poor Fred! Little did he dream he would be leading 44 stalwarts through the prickly Grampians' scrub.

Poor us! Little did we dream that we would emerge tattered and torn from that same growth. Had we but known, we would never have sung so happily all the way up in the van on Friday night. But perhaps it was the effect of the unusually mild weather, or the strange upside down look of the late moon as it rose redly on the horizon.

Saturday morning brought a continuation of the mild weather, after a night disturbed by the growlings and gruntings of unsociable koala bears. Bleary-eyed, we stumbled around in the dawn, but luckily for the sleepest of us, Gronow's van very considerably carried us up to within one mile of the summit of Mt. William, the highest point in the ranges at 3830 ft., from the top of which, looking westwards, we could see the near Serra range, and beyond, the Victoria range, with its rocky uneven tops, and the valleys in between, while eastwards lay the flat plains country. This place must surely be one of the best vantage points from which to view these rugged sandstone mountains.

Soon we were into the scrub and it was not long before shorts gave way to long pants as the low prickly growth made itself felt on our legs. A steep drop down into Boundary Gap, then a scrubby climb up, skirting around and scrambling over rocks till we reached the top and emerged onto the Major Mitchell Plateau. From now on the walking was gently graded, and magnificent views were ours, particularly of the nearby Serra range, with its rocky escarpments upthrust steeply from the valley floor. What a Paradise the plateau would be later in the year when the profusion of wildflowers would be at their best! We camped on a grassy, pleasant little valley on the head of the Wannon creek, here a modest little stream with no indication of its later headlong, tumbling course down the mountain on its way to the Wannon river.

On Sunday it was long pants again as we wandered over the mountain, then lunch with a view at the top before our final long drop down through the dry sclerophyll forest and the end of the walk at Jimmy's creek. (Whatever happened to the jeep track that suddenly ended and left us stranded in head high scrub?)

Highlights of the walk were, firstly, the grandeur of the Grampians' ranges spreading from north to south; the perfect weather; the views down into wild rocky gorges; the continual counting of heads as the leader valiantly strove to keep his wandering group reasonably cohesive through the scrubby growth - no small matter with so large a party in such terrain. This is a seldom visited area and though involving some bashing and rock scrambling, it is worth the effort involved.

Well done Fred, and thank you for a most enjoyable weekend walk.

Alma Strappazon

RALPH'S RANDOM RAMBLINGS

Kinglake, a land of green forests, prominent ridges and deep, forbidding gullies. At 11.40 the little green van grinds to a halt on a dusty road somewhere, and exudes vast quantities of bushies, who, upon contact with the ground, paw the dust nervously, then congregate in a vicious circle to hear their illustrious leader, Ralph the Rascal, outline the day's activities. In due course the motley crew assembles in marching order and sets off along the ridge in quick time and bright sunshine to search for the legendary Jehoozewhat Valley.

Soon leader forsakes track and plunges purposefully into the bush and the nearest gully with eager followers at his heels. But then of course, what goes down must come up again.

Scene: The Next Ridge. Enter Ralph, yet undaunted by the tiring effort. Enter party, strung out like sheep's entrails, wheezing and panting like dyspeptic steamrollers, in varying stages of undress. Never mind chaps, just stagger along the ridge for five minutes and it will be lunchtime.

What's Art having? avocados and Virgil. Delicious!

What's Felix having? Rice. Hmmp!

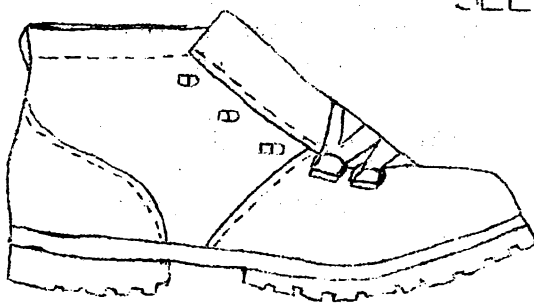
All too soon it's over and leader roadbashes for half a mile, forsakes it and plunges purposefully into gully two. At the bottom, Steele's Creek chuckles merrily along its rocky course. Leader declares, "No more climbs. We follow the creek". Inspired by this fine piece of military logic, we follow him through scrub much difficult and over slimy wet logs, until the valley broadens and scrub disperses. This is gold territory we are told, so Art devises a cunning plan to dispose of leader in the largest, deepest, coldest shaft and usurp command. But leader, realizing his peril finds a track and declares 'Smoko'.

Soon the track becomes a road and signs of habitation appear. Ignoring the Sunday drivers we follow the road. But leader, sensing boredom in the ranks leads us across a paddock full of fearsome bulls, uttering his favourite snarls to scatter the creatures.

Barb wire fencecladizing now takes its toll of weary walkers, but leader presses on towards a high knoll where we are assured of fine views. The effort is justified for there are fine views - across to Juliet and Donnabuang and Toolangi. It's fine to just sit there, with not a breath of wind, under a pale blue cloudless sky and breathe crisp, clean air. Exhilarating!

Leader, instead of advancing into the sunset, as all good leaders do, now beats a hasty retreat back to the Mt. Slider road. The sun is sinking fast, the air is cooling over the meadows, and leader is conjuring mental images of fish and chips. But alas, no van. Felix, fearing that our driver has been waylaid, considers recruiting passers-by to ferry the marooned party back to town. Eventually, bus arrives on time and forty weary bushies ruefully wend their way back to the 'big smoke'. Much thanks Ralph; you may lead again.

Underleutnon Greenboots



SEE LOCH WILSON AT
 BUSHGEAR PTY LTD
 46 HARDWARE ST
 MELBOURNE

FOR ALL
 BUSHWALKING AND CLIMBING GEAR

WHAT KIND OF BUSHWALKER ARE YOU?

Answer the following questions devised by our panel (mainly consisting of the Social Secretary) of experts (expert on everything but walking) Add up your score at the end and find out what kind of walker you really are !! (?)

1. WHEN YOU RECEIVE THE NEWS DO YOU....
 - a. read it fully and put it away for future reference.
 - b. use it to light a fire on some future walk.
 - c. read half of it and screw it up.

2. YOU DO YOUR WALK PREVIEW AND FIND IT TO BE A LOUSY WALK, DO YOU....
 - a. tell a whole stack of lies in News.
 - b. conveniently get sick when your walk is due to be led.
 - c. tell the truth and ultimately lose half of your party

3. IT IS GOING TO BE A LONG TRIP AND YOU KNOW ALL THE DISCOMFORT OFFERED BY THE VAN, DO YOU....
 - a. run into the van and grab the best seat and spread out as much as you can
 - b. puncture all the tyres with your tent peg and hope that alternative transport is found.
 - c. allow everyone to board then graciously sit on the floor.

4. YOU'VE JUST FINISHED A LARGE MEAL OF DEHYDRATED STEW AND DEHYDRATED PRUNES AND YOU BELCH LOUDLY, DO YOU....
 - a. go red in the face and try to look innocent
 - b. apologize profusely and say it will not happen again
 - c. grin and do it again

5. IT IS POURING WITH RAIN OUTSIDE YOUR TENT AND YOU KNOW THAT SOMEONE HAS TO GET UP AND GET A FIRE GOING, DO YOU....
 - a. jump out of your warm sleeping bag, gather wood and get a fire going
 - b. turn over and go to sleep again hoping someone else will get up
 - c. make an evil laugh and get your choofer going

6. HOW OFTEN WOULD YOU GO WALKING IN 6 MONTHS ?
 - a. 10 times, b. never, c. 20 times, d. once

7. YOU ARE WALKING ALONG A HOT DUSTY ROAD AT THE END OF A PARTICULARLY HARD TRIP AND A TOURIST COMES ALONG IN HIS MERCEDES, HE POKES HIS HEAD OUT THE WINDOW AND SAYS "BEEN HIKING EH, RATHER YOU THAN ME?" DO YOU....
 - a. laugh and say yes
 - b. patiently explain the difference between walking and hiking
 - c. hit him
 - d. invite him to try it some time

8. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS CONCERNING A BLUDGER ?
 - a. acursed nuisance
 - b. a fun loving stingy moron
 - c. a self portrait
 - d. a misinformed character, someone to feel sorry for

9. A GEORGIOUS GIRL VISITOR HAS CONSIDERABLE TROUBLE PITCHING HER TENT, DO YOU....
 - a. sit back and kill your self laughing
 - b. go up and assist her and then suggest that you sleep in her tent to make sure it does not fall down during the night
 - c. put up your tent slowly and show her the correct way to do it

10. A HANDSOME MALE VISITOR HAS THE SAME PROBLEM AS ABOVE, DO YOU....
 - a. snigger quietly
 - b. assist him then slap his face when he suggests you should sleep with him
 - c. methodically go through the various stages showing him the proper way to put up the tent.

11. THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF CONTROVERSY AS TO WHAT SHOULD BE WORN ON THE FEET. DO YOU WEAR....
 - a. sandhoses, b. nothing, c. thongs, d. none of these

.....next page

12. EVERY ONE HAS TO CROSS A SLIPPERY LOG OVER A RAGING WAIST DEEP TORRENT,
DO YOU.....

- a. wade into the torrent and help people across the log
- b. run across and get your camera out
- c. get across and throw stones into the water near the log
- d. panic and refuse to cross

* * * * *

HOW MUCH EACH ANSWER IS WORTH.....

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. a - 5, b - 1, c - 3 | 7. a - 5, b - 1, c - 1, d - 3 |
| 2. a - 1, b - 3, c - 5 | 8. a - 3, b - 2, c - 1, d - 5 |
| 3. a - 3, b - 1, c - 5 | 9. a - 1, b - 3, c - 5 |
| 4. a - 1, b - 5, c - 3 | 10. a - 1, b - 3, c - 5 |
| 5. a - 5, b - 1, c - 3 | 11. a - 3, b - 1, c - 1, d - 5 |
| 6. a - 3, b - 0, c - 5, d - 1 | 12. a - 5, b - 3, c - 2, d - 0 |

* * * * *

HERE'S HOW YOU RATE.....THE HORRIBLE TRUTH (?)

- 50 - 60 You are a blooming perfectionist, a flawless walker who never puts a foot wrong....what an utter bore.
- 40 - 50 You are an extremely good walker, perhaps a little too good, but most definitely one to look up to. You are experienced in all aspects of walking and a great asset to the club. The halo will be given to you at the next meeting.
- 30 - 40 Average person, one who makes up 90% of the club, a fun loving, easy going member who enjoys getting away on trips and meeting people.
- 20 - 30 You have a few things to learn as you are new to the game and will make a lot of mistakes. You are unsure of your self but with a bit of practice you will come good.
- 10 - 20 You are basically useless, why did you ever try bushwalking as a sport? You lack ambition; you would be a leaders curse and you are pretty hopeless. (If are a girl and you are crying at this stage, see the Social Secretary and he will make you the star of some futute social event.)

Under 10 I'd give up if I were you, why not try collecting stamps.

THE Club Welcomes the following new members:-

- Magaret Grogan Flat 1, 36 Clendon Road, Toorak. Vic. 3142.
- Norbert Hendryck 116 Canterbury Road, Middle Park, Vic. 3206
- Paul Wiencke 81 Kenmore Street, Box Hill North, Vic. 3129.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- Stuart Hodgson, C/- District Commissioner, KIMBE, New Britain, Papua New Guinea. (Anyone who wishes to write to Stuart can be assured of a prompt reply, apart from allowance for the mail times)
- Alison Howell 128 Canning Street, Carlton, Vic. 3053.
- Fred Anchell "Darriwill Park" C/- P.O. Bannockburn, Vic. 3331
- Arthur & Joan Whyte P.O. Box 9, Kallista, Vic. 3791. (Dal Monte Grove, Kallista) p) 750 1537.
- Mrs. Lesley Sievers (nee Anderson) 212 Warrigal Road, Cheltenham, Vic. 3192

NEWS SUBSCRIBER

- Greg Harwood Cynthia Bay, Via Derwent Bridge, Tasmania. 7465

ANOTHER CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- Les Markham & Dave Thompson 31 Briggs Street, Caulfield, Vic. 3152 p) 53 '3349

- DUTY ROSTER:
- 14th June Sue Ball, Joy Seymour
 - 21st June Fred Halls, Art Terry
 - 28th June Alma Strappazon, Tim Dent
 - 5th July Barbara Davies, Bob Steel