



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 305

APRIL 1975

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

DONT BE A

DONKEY

PAY YOUR SUBS

If this donkey has a

RED NOSE

this is your last copy
of "NEWS"



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JUNIOR MEMBER (16-21)	\$3.00
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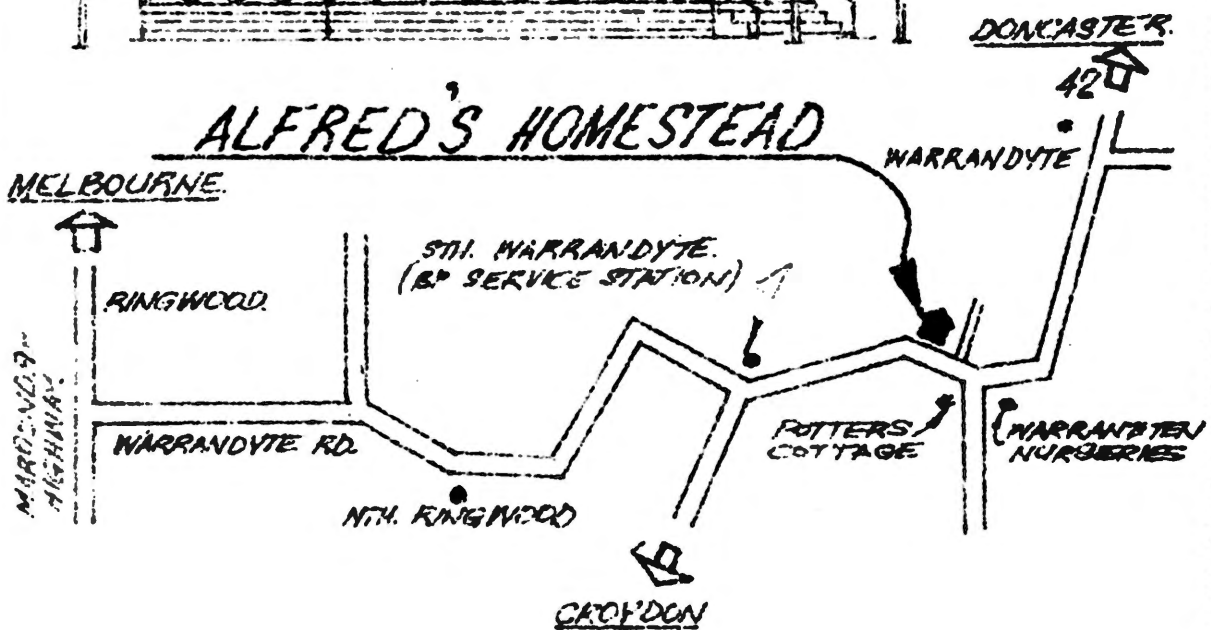
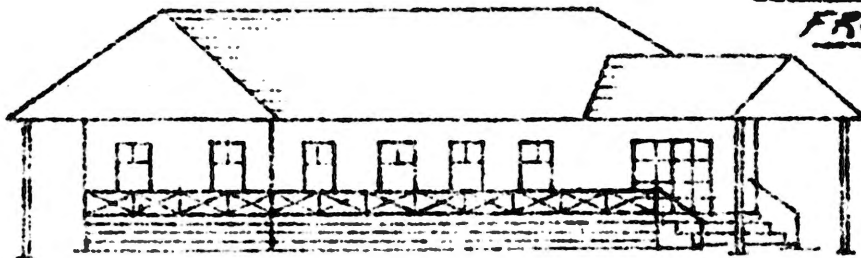
The Secretary
Melbourne Bushwalkers
P O Box 1751Q, G P O
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 14 Hosier Lane, at the rear of the Forum Theatre every Wednesday night at 7.30pm
Visitors are always welcome.

REMEMBER:- ONLY FINANCIAL MEMBERS MAY VOTE AT GENERAL MEETINGS!

M.B.W. ANNUAL DINNER.

SATURDAY NIGHT
MAY 3RD.
FROM 7.00 PM.



DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. BOOK NOW FOR THE 'FIRST' ANNUAL DINNER FOR 75. FEAST YOURSELF TO THE SUMPTUOUS SMORGASBOARD AND LET LOOSE ON THE DANCE FLOOR UNTIL MIDNIGHT (OR TILL YOUR SHERPAS PACK IT IN.)

SEE GEOFF CRAPPER FOR BOOKINGS

PH. 615 4262

COST \$7.00

DON'T MISS OUT.

COMING SOCIAL EVENTS.

- MAY 3RD. ANNUAL DINNER AT ALFRED'S HOMESTEAD SEE ABOVE.
- MAY 7TH. SLIDES OF S.W. TASMANIA MARCH 1975 COURTESY OF ROBKEN PRODUCTIONS.
- MAY 21ST. TALK BY DR. EALEY OF MONASH UNIVERSITY ON THE INSTIGATION OF 'CONSERVATION CO-OPERATIVES'

MAY WALK PREVIEWS

May 4 WERRIBEE GORGE Easy/Medium

Leader: Peter Goodwin (p) 848 5028
Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 9.15 am Fare \$2.00
Expected time of return: 8.00 pm

We shall leave the van just short of the cross roads, where the old Ingleston Railway Station was, and drop down to the gorge opposite the "Island". From there we shall move down river into the gorge and hopefully we shall have lunch in the gorge. Please bring water for lunch because the water in the river doesn't look to clean.

At some point we shall have to cross the river and depending on whether there is rain or not before or during our walk, feet may get wet!

On the far side of the gorge we shall move along the disused aqueduct to a point just short of the Table Top where we shall move north-easterly to the Ballarat Road where the van will meet us.

May 4 FEDERATION DAY WALK

Organised by M.U.M.C., there are two walks this year.

(1) Medium standard:TALLAROOK - BREECH PEAK - MILL CK. - MEADOW HILL - TRAWOOL. Map: Tallarook 1:50 000 Carry water for lunch.

(2) Easy family walk. KERRISDALE - KING PARROT CK. AREA.

Map: Yea 1: 50 000 No fences to be crossed! Water provided for lunch.

Both walks use the same transport, which is a special train leaving Flinders St. No. 10 East platform at 8.00am, returning about 7.00pm. Tickets are \$3.50 Adults \$1.75 Children under 16.

Tickets can be obtained from M.U.M.C. Laurie Patrick 387 3764

Rex Niven 249 751

Harry Schaap 803 581 (home)

429 1511 ext.493(work)

May 11 GYPSY LANE - KEPPEL'S LANE - BUXTON PEAKS - SEA ELEPHANT ROCK Medium

Leader: Les Markham

Transport: Van from Batman Ave. at 9.15 am. Fare \$2.50

Expected time of return: 8.00 pm

Map reference: VMTC Cathedral Ranges

Approximate distance: 12 miles.

A stiff walk in the Cathedral Range; a just reward for the time to be spent in the van. Magnificent forests, superb views, and the cold, clean air of early winter.

May 18 BRITANNIA RANGE - BRITANNIA CREEK Medium

Leader: Stewart Backhouse (p) 586 866

Transport: Van from Batman Ave. 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00

Expected time of return. 8.00 pm.

Map reference: Gembrook 1:50 000

Approximate distance: 11-12 miles

The walk starts with a steady climb along a 4 wheel drive track to the top of the Britannia Range. We climb about 1600 ft. in 2 miles. We follow the range in an easterly direction through lush forests opening out to light scrub country with good views. The track then descends to Britannia Ck. We return to our original starting point via the Britannia Ck. Road, through beautiful rain forest and fern gullies. Please bring water for lunch.

May 25 ST. ANDREWS - MT. EVERARD - STEELS CK. - DIXONS CK. Medium

Leader: Art Terry (p) 933 617

Transport: Van leaving Batman Ave. at 9.15 am. Fare \$2.00

Expected time of return: 8.30 pm.

Map references: Yarra Glen 1:63 360

Approximate distance: 10 miles

An invigorating walk in the countryside! See Art for further details.

WEEKEND WALKS

May CATHEDRAL RANGE - BUXTON Medium

9-11 Leader: Geoff Crapper (b) 615 4262

Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. 6.30 pm Fare \$7.00

Expected time of return: 7.30 pm

Map reference: VMTC Cathedral Ranges 2 inches = 1 mile

Approximate distance: 27 Km.

After a steep climb of 540 metres up Chapel Hill, we will continue at a leisurely pace to the Cathedral. With a bit of luck we will be at the "Farmyard" by lunchtime where we will camp. In the afternoon, the Razorback and Sugarloaf will be traversed.(without packs) Sunday will be mainly downhill, following the Ajax track in a devious manner back to Buxton.

May 23-25 LIMA SOUTH - MT. SAMARIA - HOLLANDS CK. - KELLY TREE - ARCHERTON
Leader: Arthur Francis (p) 725 7074 Medium
Transport: Van from Batman Ave. at 6.30 pm Fare \$9.00
Expected time of return: 8.00pm
Map reference: Whitfield 1:100 000
Approximate distance: 20 miles

Saturdays walk is through pleasant mountain country with good views. An excellent campsite has been found on Hollands ck.

The preview showed that extensive logging is taking place near Archerton, so a second preview is necessary. We will probably go north along Hollands Ck. on Sunday.

May 30- THE PINNACLES - MT. POREPUNKAH - BRIGHT Medium
June 1 Leader: Graham Mascas (p) 256 940
Transport: Van leaves Batman Ave. at 6.30pm Fare \$9.00
Map reference: Mt. Buffalo 1:100 000

You may have noticed the rocky outcrop over-looking the Happy Valley Rd. between Myrtleford and Mt. Beauty, or if observant, the mountain which over-looks Bright. Well, now by special consent of the Walks sub-committee and special (?) leadership of yours truly, you may have the chance to conquer these peaks. The time of year has been specially chosen so the Owens Valley will be seen in all it's autumn glory and the best autumn weather has been ordered. All that remains is for you to come and enjoy what should be an excellent walk through timbered country and rocky outcrops with spectacular views in all directions. The terrain will be varied and the walk, not easy, should provide just sufficient challenge to satisfy those purists among us. I invite you to join me in an area not used by the club for many years if at all.

FEDERATION MATTERS

(1) Fire Regulations

At present, Country Fire Authority and Forests Commission regulations state that fires in the open must be lit in a trench 50 cm. deep. (19.7 inches) For bushwalkers, the difficulties of complying with this are obvious. Federation intends to approach the authorities concerned in an attempt to have this regulation amended. Comments or suggestions from club members are welcome.

(2) Huts

Federation has appointed a sub-committee to formulate a hut policy. Submissions are required by the end of April. Anyone with anything to say on the subject should do so to me as soon as possible.

(3) Federation Day Walk

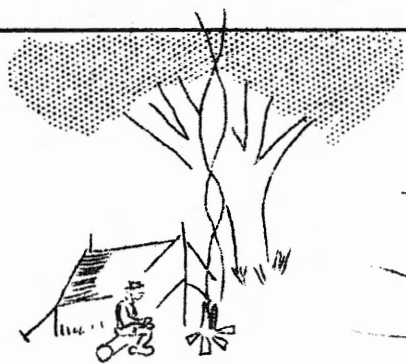
This is to be held in the Tallarook area on Sunday May 4th. See the Walk Previews for details.

LCC GRAMPIANS SUBMISSION

We need photographs, black and white prints or colour slides, to illustrate our submission to the LCC on the Grampians. Specific points of interest are the wilderness aspects of the area; cave paintings; conflicts with other users - such as trail bikes; and soil erosion. Slides will be returned as soon as they have been copied and all care will be taken of them. Please - let's have a good club response to this important area. All offers to the Conservation Group via Dave Oldfield or any Committee member.

BUSH MUSIC - It's on again. Saturday May 3rd at 8.00pm in the Scout Hall outside Toorek Railway Station.

Sea - Shanties, supper,50¢



ALONG THE TRACK

THE LONELIEST STEREOEPHONIC APPLE TREE IN VICTORIA

"Charles!" "Margaret - ! You still want me -- !!" "Charles! It isn't effluent, dear. It's CONfluent!" Don't ask me - I don't know either. Perhaps Inter - national Womens' Year had something to do with it. At least Sam seemed to think so. Diffidently - perhaps even a trifle wistfully - he happened to mention that there where one or two vacancies in his tent..... if any International women should be wanting them , of course. Well, even if they weren't exactly International.....well, there were one or two places.....yes, he felt quite definate about that, he thought.

While some mused, others acted. The sylvan glades of Freeburgh quivered with gales of giggles. A green tent was moving. It heaved and shook, and a couple of pegs popped out. "Quick - turn him over (giggle)!" "Ooooh aaaah no! no!" Panic and desperation in the new Social Secretary's voice. Not one, not two, but three determined damsels contended for his favours. A man outnumbered in a world of liberated International women is a man in danger. He seemed to thrive on it. "Huh" grunted Ken a day or so later, surveying a satin-smooth social jaw. "He never shaves for me."

After long and lonely years, the forgotten valleys of the north - east rang once again with human voices. From Whisky Flat, as evening shadows deepened, a Scotch mist drifted across Boiler Plain. Quite heady after a while - in fact a distinct improvement on the ordinary kind. Boiler Plain; where the mighty furnaces of Messrs Puff, Wheeze and Gasp once roared, and any passing bunyip was in danger of being boiled down for it's lard. On moomless nights the silent horsemen of Maraposa would steal down the spur, bearing the lard to old Mother Brocket.

Old Mother Brocket had a secret. Long before stereophonic headphones were invented, or the Secret Life of Plants was even guessed at, she was playing Beethoven on her ear trumpet to apples picked from her tree - a tree which stands to this very day, but, pining for strains of the Eroica, bears no more. When bunyips were in season, and Ludwig van soared the airwaves clearly, Mother Brocket could supply delicious apple pies to the miners as far away as Jamieson and Old Walhalla. At last, one day, disaster struck. The good dame inadvertently tuned in Schoenberg on her battered instrument. Not only was this an anachronism of the worst degree, but at once the apples withered, the boilers exploded, the gold ran out, and the bush reclaimed its own. Strangely, this facet of our history does not seem to have been recorded in "The Alps at the Crossroads"

In pouring rain, the walk finished at the rubbish dump. "Margaret!" "Charles - !" "Margaret - - !! We've finished the walk, and we're still talking to each other!" "Shush, dear, and the nice bus driver will take us home." "Ah! That's it!! It's not because I haven't criticised her bloody driving ability! She hasn't got any. Scares me out of my wits. No mechanical sense. None whatever. Thinks that when she pushes her foot down a whole lot of little men underneath run a bit faster." "Well, dear, they don't pay any attention when you push your foot down in YOUR car, do they?!"

.....LOUIS, 7TH EARL OF YERTO0.

FOR SALE: Pair of Scarpa "Fitzroy" walking boots.
 - strong Italian boots, padded ankles, Vibram soles
 - only used twice, suit size 7 - 8\$25
 - please contact STEWART MORONEY (p) 787 5656

A CONFESSION AND A WARNING

The leader had been warning about snow before and during our Easter trip. Now the trip was just over, and the others had headed for Melbourne down a dry road. Three of us with an extra days holiday were staying in the Playground area. At 11am we set off along a jeep track for Buchan Rock, planning to be back at the cars for lunch about 12.30pm. The view from Buchan Rock showed us our Easter trip spread before us as a three-dimensional map, but before we finished enjoying the view it began to snow.

In our haste to get off the mountain and back to the cars, we took an incorrect way and could not find the jeep track. Fortunately, we found a point where we could see Buchan Rock, so we returned there and began again. Visibility was now almost nil. For a second time we could not find the jeep track, but after much walking through snow, we eventually stumbled across the road, and then we were soon back at our cars.

The cars were under 10 centimetres of soft snow and so was the track. With two pushing and one driving, much scraping away of snow, and many attempts, we managed to move the cars the twenty metres onto the road. Even then, we had to push the leading car to get it moving on the snow coated road.

We confess we did not carry PARKAS
MATCHES
COMPASSES to Buchan Rock.

We confess we were not carrying wheel chains in our cars.

This brief trip ended in wet slush, but it could have ended in tragedy. Please, no matter how short the trip (even a couple of kilometres)

CARRY PARKA
CARRY MATCHES
CARRY COMPASS

and if you are driving into snow country at any time of the year -

BE PREPARED FOR SNOW'.

Spencer George

BUSHWALKING DESCRIBED - NOTES ON BILLY LIFTING

(1) USING A STICK (40cm. x 1.5cm)

- (i) Squat facing fire, keeping your feet approx. 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ cm. apart.
- (ii) Take stick and ensure that there is a clear space around your billy by poking aside any others (which aren't yours).
- (iii) Insert stick under billy handle and lift vertically.
- (iv) Still in squat position, walk backwards 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ cm. and lower billy safely to ground.
- (v) Apologise for trampling neighbour's tea.

(2) IF NO STICK IS AVAILABLE

- (i) As (i) above, but take a deep breath.
- (ii) Extend arm over fire.
- (iii) Waste no time, pinch billy handle between forefinger and thumb, lift, and place gently, without further delay, on the nearest available ground, being careful not to spill contents.
- (iv) Quickly place aforementioned digits in mouth for:-
 - (a) cooling
 - (b) plugging profanity.

HOW WOULD YOU GO CLIMBING MT. BOGONG?

One of the service clubs in the Kiewa valley held a Bogong Conquest-a-thon on March 9th. The route was up the "Staircase" and down "Eskdale" spur, then back to the starting point.

Our Tim Dent accomplished this in 2 hours 19 minutes.
BUT - he was third, the winner taking 2 hours and 2 minutes.



Ever since the discovery of the Phantom Fossil in a quarry near Montrose in July of 1972, the club has been beset by a horrendous curse, second only to that of Tutankhamen.

To everyones relief, the Editor has the pleasure of announcing that the Fossil has finally returned to the earth from where he came.

It was all over very quickly - the Fossil was carrying out a soils investigation in a trench, when suddenly it caved in, burying him alive.

A fitting fate you may say, but alas, a peculiar thing happened. Out of the rubble and confusion emerged a shady little creature with a nasty looking tail and eight legs. Yes - a deadly scorpion.

It was last seen crawling into a rucksack headed for Batman Ave. I regret to say that this nasty little character has eluded all attempt to track him (or her?) down and it looks like it might be around for some time to come.

Could it be the re-incarnation of the Fossil?

The SHADY SCORPION strikes again. (Well, for the 1st. time)

Conversations arising from games at Wilky:

Helen H: I can't stand draughts!

Sylvia W: (quite innocently): No, I can't stand them either. Why? Are you in one?

GWJ to GW (while playing chess): I don't mind a feed of prawns occaisionly. I think I'll have that one.

The quiet and serenity of Boiler PLain, Upper Dargo, was disturbed recently one Sunday night when a certain young female decided to throw an impromptu party in the Social Secretary's tent.

Starting off with a modest nine people, smoked oysters, bikkies, nuts and refresh were partaken of with great zeal. The party began to reach fever pitch when the tent was nearly set alight by Paul's mammoth candle and the party games commenced. By this time the oxygen was being exhausted at a great rate and the screams and yells emanating from the tent began to attract some gatecrashers. Finally, hostilities were ended with 16 bods contained within the confines of the 7ft. by 5ft. Japara ediface.

Unfortunately, it was too much for the seams and the tent required a major overhaul before being operational again. A short, dark haired figure with one hand in his Eidex parka at the scene of the crime was heard to say "I'm going to get you tonight, Josephine" THUMP!

The scorpion warns that any member who does not attend the Annual Dinner on May 3rd will have his/her walking licence suspended for 6 months OR be re-quired to sit next to "you-know-who"(without the aid of earmuffs) for 10 minutes each on the next bus trip.

Guest Speaker - May 21

Dr. Tim Ealey of Monash University will give an important talk about the Conser-vation Co-operative that he has established in bushland at Kangaroo Ground.

Building with hand-made bricks and narural materials found in the vicinity, and with timber and house-fittings recovered from demolition sites, he has also created a house of immense character and imagination, that is in harmony with a beautiful tract of bushland which is a sanctuary for plants and animals that still live around the fringes of Melbourne.

cont. next page.

Dr. Ealey is Co-ordinator for the Master of Environmental Science Course at Monash, and lectures for the Council of Adult Education in environmental and conservation topics of interest to the layman.

I guarantee an interesting evening.

LES MARKHAM

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Price, Rosemary and Paul 6 Heaton Ave. Glen Iris 3146 Paul(work) 440 561

Bover, Joy and David 13/81 Northbourne Ave. Turner A.C.T. 2601

Bryan, Ralph and Barbara 13 Hopetoun Cr. Box Hill 3128 (p) 893 958

Barbara (w) 615 8799

Rodgers, Frederick 113 Chomley St. Prahan (p) 519 757
(w) 615 2956

Crosser, Peter 5/140 Brighton Rd. Elsternwick 3185

Flanders, Neville 3 Joyce Ave. South Oakleigh 3167

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

Bilham, Judith 3/106 Millswyn St. Sth. Yarra 3141 (p) 263 886
(w) 347 5522 Ext.138

Fritze, Vyrall 10 Rix St. Glen Iris. (p) 202 240

DEFINITION: A weatherman is so called because you never know whether he is right or wrong.

molony's

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MELBOURNE
67-8428&9

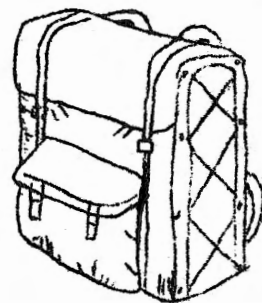
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AND CLIMBING NEEDS
INSPECT OUR RANGE
1ST & 2ND FLOORS

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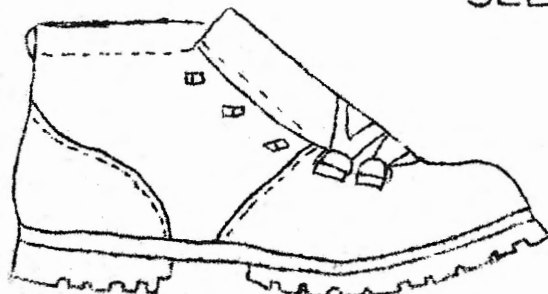
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