



# THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 341

APRIL, 1978

Price 3¢

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DONT BE A

**DONKEY**

PAY YOUR SUBS

If this donkey has a

RED NOSE

this is your last copy  
of "NEWS"



SUBSCRIPTIONS RATES ARE:

Member over 18	£8
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WELCOME to New Members -

JAMES BAILLIE  
9 Yuile Street,  
ASHBURTON, 3147. Home 211-0119

WILLIAM DAVID DAVIES  
7 McPherson Street,  
COBURG, 3058. Work 30-7949

MICHAEL BUSBY  
11 Railway Street,  
SEYMOUR, 3660. Home: 057-922529  
Work: 057-922-200

Correspondence should be addressed to:-

The Secretary,  
Melbourne Bushwalkers,  
Box 1751Q, G.P.O.  
Melbourne, 3001.

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, 14 Hosier Lane, at the rear of the forum theatre, every Wednesday night at 7.00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

### Day Walks

May 7      BROADFORD-YEA      Tough

LEADER: Art Terry  
TRANSPORT: Train Spencer Street, 9.30 a.m.  
            Bus from Yea approx. 7.30 p.m.  
FARE: Buy single rail fare to Broadford  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.30 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: Tallarook 1" - 1 mile in Yea and Tallarook 1-50,000.  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 30 miles.

The route to Yea is just the same as last year's run - climb, however, we will be having fewer rest stops in order to have more time for a meal at Yea. We didn't have much time to spare last time - I suggest we have a substantial breakfast and bring a bar of chocolate, a couple of energy bars and some water for lunch (10 mins.) I hope to see Norm, Mike, Simon & Geoff our last year's starters along with Tim and a few others on this, the 3rd official club event.

May 7      GEMBROOK AREA      Easy

LEADER: Liz McKenzie  
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m. sharp.  
FARE: \$3  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.30 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: Gembrook 1/50,000 605-164 to Warragul 1/100,000 856-914  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12 kms.

We will start from Frahm Road, climb gradually to Mt. Towt (353m) which has many burnt tree trunks (leave white shirts at home). The track downwards passes a scout hut and idyllic green farming area on the way back to the van where both this walk and Max's medium walk end. Bring water for lunch.

May 7      GEMBROOK-BLACK SNAKE RANGE-DIAMOND CREEK-MT. TOWT      Medium

LEADER: Max Casley  
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.  
FARE: \$3 MEMBERS, \$4 VISITORS  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.30 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: GEMBROOK 1:50,000, WARRAGUL 1:100,000.  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 20 kms.

Please note that there is also an easy walk in this area, travelling on the same van, led by Elizabeth McKenzie. This walk is through forested hill country south-eastish of Gembrook mainly along minor roads and tracks, with occasional good views into the valleys below. There are quite a few ups and downs but nothing extremely arduous - I wouldn't be leading it otherwise!

May 14      LABERTOUCHE CAVES AREA (GEMBROOK)      Medium

LEADER: Ross Hoskin  
TRANSPORT: VAN FROM BATMAN AVENUE 9.15 SHARP  
FARE: \$3  
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.30 p.m.  
MAP REFERENCE: DROUIN 1:63,360, WARRAGUL 1:100,000  
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 8 Kms.

Those intending to go on this walk/crawl/climb must see the leader prior to booking.

The caves were formed by a stream forcing its way through a landslide. On reaching the caves (98 9931) after a short walk, we will have an early lunch before anyone enters the caves. Walkers intending to enter the caves should:

- (a) Exercise a lot of commonsense, have an adventurous outlook and be of sure balance,
- (b) carry at least one robust torch (preferably 2) with a battery life of more than 5 hours,
- (c) be prepared to get very dirty and wet. Take a change of clothes,
- (d) wear old clothes which cover the limbs to prevent abrasion.

N.B. Persons of medium and heavy build would experience much difficulty squeezing through the crevices.

May 21      BLUFF-SHEOAK HILL-STAUGHTON VALE(GEELONG)      Medium

LEADER: Ian Stewart  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m. sharp.  
 FARE:        ~~3~~  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.30 p.m.  
 MAP REFERENCE: Ballan and Meredith 1" to mile  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 16 kms.

haven't previewed the walk yet so describing it presents difficulties. It will start with a 500' climb from the Glenmore Road, west of Bacchus Marsh to the top of The Bluff. Then the route will take us through the Brisbane Ranges in a roughly southerly direction via Sheoak Hill to Staughton Vale. I expect the terrain to be rocky, scrubby and dry with occasional descents into and climbs out of steep-sided gullies. Bring water for lunch.

May 21      SHEOAK HILL-STAUGHTON VALE

LEADER: Shelly Hayes  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.  
 FARE: ~~3~~

A very pleasant walk, bring water for lunch.

May 28      MT. BLACKWOOD-LERDERDERG RIVER-DARLEY FORD

LEADER: Geoff Mattingley      Medium Hard  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m. sharp.  
 FARE: ~~3~~  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.  
 MAP REFERENCE: F.C.V. Lerderderg Gorge Forest Park  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 20 kms.

Commencing at Mt. Blackwood, which has some spectacular views if the weather is clear, we descend to the Lerderderg river near Long Point, and follow the river through the Lerderderg Gorge. That is, if the river is not flowing too hard. At the beginning of April, it was barely flowing, which would be ideal conditions for this walk, however, come prepared to cross the river several times if necessary, as by late May there will probably be plenty of water. Along the river is fairly rough going, so the grading of this walk means what it says. Bring water for lunch.

May 28      MT. BLACKWOOD-BLACKWOOD RANGE-DARLEY FORD

LEADER: Stuart Mattingley      Easy Medium  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m. sharp  
 FARE: ~~3~~  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.  
 MAP REFERENCE: F.C.V. - Lerderderg Gorge Forest Park  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 14 kms.

Good views from Mt. Blackwood. The walk is along the ridge above the Lerderderg River, descending to the river at the end, where there may be a river crossing or two. Bring water for lunch.

Weekend Walks

May 12-14      MAJOR MITCHELL PLATEAU-EAST SIDE      Medium/Hard

LEADER: Tyrone Thomas  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.  
 FARE: \$10  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN Sunday 9.00 p.m.  
 MAP REFERENCE: Ararat National Mapping 1:100,000  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 23 kms.

This walk will commence at Bcmjinna Picnic Ground west of Moyston and at the eastern base of the Mount William Range. We will climb the range on a good foot track to the car park and barrier just north west of Mount William then walk up the disused road to the summit for superb views. A foot track will then be taken south to Boundary Gap and then we will climb onto the very edge of the Major Mitchell plateau and camp beside the headwaters of First Wannan Creek just outside the Forests Commissions Special Purpose area in which no camping is permitted. The days distance will be only 12 kms. but entails 800 metres of climbing.

On the second day we will follow the eastern escarpment rim of the Major Mitchell Plateau for superb views and alpine vegetation then after lunch descend via the Stockyard Track (a jeeptrack) to Mafeking. The days distance is 11 kms. mostly level and downhill walking. The last 5 km. is in eucalypt forest. - See you there. T.T.T.

MAFEKING HISTORICAL RAMBLE      Base Camp  
 (Southern Grampians)      Very Easy  
 LEADER: Robert Ayre  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.  
 FARE: \$10  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.00 p.m.  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 24 kms.  
 MAP: Ararat 1:100,000 National Mapping.

The year 1900 saw one of the last of the old-time gold rushes on the southern slopes of the Major Mitchell Plateau. The area was named Mafeking, after the contemporary battle in South Africa. Looking at it now, it is difficult to believe that over 10,000 people once lived there. We will be camping on the site of the old township. Sleepwalkers beware ..... there are a lot of open mineshafts in the area, many concealed by scrub. The first day will be spent wandering around the old mine workings. In the morning we will visit the old water reserve and the deep gullies left after sluicing operations to the north of the town, then return to camp for lunch - about 4 km. In the afternoon we will follow a major gully south of the town, and then continue walking through the bush to the west and north of the town - about 8 km. On the second day we will walk over to Sugarloaf hill to the north-east of the town, from which we have good views of the escarpment of the Major Mitchell Plateau and of the plains to the east and south - about 12 km. A lot of the walking will be on tracks, but some will be through scrub. And the Grampians are rightly famous for their scrub. Slacks and long sleeves are strongly recommended.

May 26-28      ACHERON RIVER-MT. DESPAIR-GLENBURN      Medium

LEADER: Geoff Crapper  
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.  
 FARE: \$8  
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.30 p.m.  
 MAP REFERENCE: Taggerty and Glenburn 1:50,000  
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 32 kms.

The route has been slightly amended to commence now at the confluence of Palmer Creek and the Acheron River about 5 km south of Buxton. The ridge south of Robbie Creek will be followed to Yea Rock where we will swing NNW down to "S" creek and up again towards Falls Creek where we will camp just above Wilhelmina Falls. Sunday will start by crossing the Murrindindi River and then heading up the spur to Mr. Despair, from there we will head by a circuitous means to Glenburn where happily the van will be. For those whose memories go back 3 years, this will be the anniversary of the famed Crapper's Cathedrals Circus.

## Weekend Walks (Cont.)

May 28-30

MT. MARGARET-TALI KARNG-WELLINGTON RIVER

Hard

LEADER:

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.

FARE: \$ 10

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.00 p.m. Sunday

MAP REFERENCE: VMTC Macalister River Watersheds 1" 2 ml.

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 32 Miles Glenmaggie 1:100,000

This is an unpreviewed walk with lots of ups and downs. Mt. Margaret will be climbed first thing Saturday morning (early start). From here it's down to the Chromite Mine on the Dolodrook River and up to Tali Karng via the "Valley of Destruction". Sounds like fun. Campsite Sat. night may well be Tali Karng (unless there's a better campsite en route) so be prepared for a fairly long, arduous Saturday. A side trip to the Sentinels on Sunday morning may be in order before the straightforward descent to the Wellington River and wet feet. This walk offers lots of good scenery and walking country - a reasonable degree of fitness will be required.

ABOUT DAY LONG WEEKEND, MARYSVILLE TO THORNTON ALONG THE BLUE RANGE

A group of ten travelled by public bus on Friday night to Marysville where some last minute purchases were made. Rob then led us in pitch blackness for a mile or two to a pleasant campsite by the Taggerty River, where we were greeted by a fierce looking dog from a nearby caravan. Saturday dawned bright and sunny. To everyone's surprise Heiney produced a 4½ litre cask of claret and consumed a few cupfuls. Offers to others were met with "not at breakfast thanks". After breakfast we set off in cheerful mood to Keppel's Falls. There the track stopped and we scrambled, slid and scrub-bashed up the Taggerty River until we rejoined the road, where a lunch stop was very welcome. We then started up a steep track up the Blue Range. Sam, in constant contact with the outside world, informed us of the rising temperature (as if we hadn't noticed) which reached 38°C in Melbourne. At one rest stop Heiney failed to appear so Garry gallantly went back to investigate and found him sitting beside the road lightening his load by drinking the claret. Soon after Heiney decided not to continue the walk. Debate continued for some time as to whether it was the internal effects or the external weight which had the worse effect. The remaining nine continued up to Keppel's Hut where we found a group of Melbourne University Freshers already camped. It was fortunate that we had the hut to cook in because there was a total fire ban. It was a very pleasant evening to relax over a meal even though we were minus Heiney and his claret. The Uni students played "new games", but our group was pretty tired and went to bed early. Malcolm was enraged to hear one of the University group say "the oldies have gone to bed already", and seriously considered getting up to join in, but decided against it after all. Next morning we continued up and along the Blue Range. Some wrens provided some entertainment by showing their skill at catching butterflies on the wing; and Alan almost came too close to a snake. As we approached Rubicon clouds gathered and thunder rumbled ominously. Someone remarked that Rubicon was the wettest place in Victoria. As we started the steep descent the first few drops fell, and three motor bikes roared past us up to the top. Then the rain poured down and the track became a muddy slippery slide. The motor bikes came down silently sliding past us as we struggled down. When we came to our campsite by the Royston River we found it already occupied (it was a long weekend) but we managed to squeeze our tents in. The rain eased and we built a good fire and with food inside us soon felt a lot better. Next morning it was still wet. Garry and Angela, the Kiwi couple, decided to walk to Thornton directly along the road because of Angela's blisters. The rest of us climbed up the Royston Range, which was hot work and Jean, Chris and Max took time off to sample the blackberries, but they were past their prime (the blackberries of course). Lunch was had at Morris Lookout where the sandflies were a bit too friendly. After lunch the cloud cleared and we had good views of Lake Eildon on the way down to Thornton. Thanks Rob for leading an enjoyable walk.

We haven't finished the Alpine Walking Track yet (except for Michael, that is), but we have come to the end of it. I would like to thank all drivers, without whose help it would not have been possible to have done it at all - especially Hugh, who was with us on the first stage, and on the last stage, and on most of those in between. I would also like to thank all leaders - especially Michael for his help on Stage 1 and for getting us through the gruelling Stage 8 ... all in one piece. Stage 5, which had to be postponed because of bushfire hazard on the Australia Day weekend, will appear as something of a postscript in November, but that is so far in the future that it seems worthwhile summarising the other seven stages now. Distances vary slightly from those given in the original estimates, partly because of problems of access and egress on stages 3 and 4, partly because the final route followed was not what I originally thought it would be (stages 1 & 2), and partly because the original estimates were stepped off comparatively roughly in 1/2 mile intervals, where the final route was measured in 0.1 mile intervals. No interpolations were allowed within contour intervals, and there are none of these namby-pamby terrain factors (1.414 for 45° slopes, 1.155 for 30°) so beloved of scout troop leaders and school teachers who claim that their parties never walk less than 25 miles per day. We can say that the ground covered was at least what is stated.

STAGE 1: WALHALLA TO THOMSON			STAGE 6: HOTHAM TO WALLACE'S		
	MILES	FEET		MILES	FEET
Day 1	18.8	5200	Day 9	6.7	1100
Day 2	19.3	350	Day 10	10.2	1550
STAGE 2: THOMSON TO SHILLINGLAW			STAGE 7: WATCHBED CREEK TO WILLS		
Day 3	14.9	4700	Day 11	10.5	1500
Day 4	8.9	2900	Day 12	15.0	2700
			Day 13	4.5	1750
STAGE 3: SKENE TO KNOBS			STAGE 8: WILLS TO TOM GROGGIN		
Day 5	14.8	2800	Day 14	18.7	2950
Day 6	9.8	2700	Day 15	15.3	3650
STAGE 4: KNOBS TO SPECULATION			Day 16	13.4	3000
Day 7	10.9	4300	Day 17	19.2	3350
Day 8	15.3	3200	Day 18	5.2	-
			PROGRESSIVE AGGREGATE:		231.4 47600

W-J.

#### WILKINSON LODGE

Once, again, winter and the ski-ing season are drawing close. Bookings for winter parties are now open. If you want to go ski-ing at Wilky, organise a group now. Please remember that you are required to supply your own briquettes, even if you are only going up for a weekend.

Food and clothes can only be stored in the lockers in the storeroom. Committee has decided that these lockers are still to be hired at \$4 a season i.e. April 1 to December 31. Any food (or grog!) left in a locker after December 31 becomes general property.

ROD MATTINGLEY

Lodge Manager.

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#### NOTICE OF MOTION

I move that the club seek affiliation with the Conservation Council of Victoria.

MOVED Christine Nicol

SECONDED Rod Mattingley

APRIL COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Official minutes will be posted in the committee room in due course. Some points which came up:

TREASURER: Balance 31 Mar. 78: \$4,149.80. Bills passed for payment at the meeting totalled \$1,697.21. This included Gronows bill for February, and payments for transport for A.W.T.'s 7 & 8.

WALKS SECRETARY: Jan. 40m + 80v = 128 = 102d + 26w/e. Loss \$14.  
Feb. 129m + 63v = 192 = 129d + 63w/e. Profit \$29

The fare charged for A.W.T. No. 8, \$18 was very reasonable, considering that total expenses for it were \$306.87 and receipts (8 @ \$18 + 1 @ \$9) came to only half this.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: 92 paid-up members. Members who allow their subscriptions to lapse (last Wednesday in May) must do their qualifying walks again. Renewal forms are included with this month's "News". Post now!

NEWS CONVENOR: Closing date May 3. Our thanks to Caroline for typing up the Constitution, enclosed herewith.

SOCIAL SECRETARY: Wine bottling at Rob & Shelly's place, 104 Kananook Avenue, Seaford South, 2.00 p.m. 22 April, 1978. Half-yearly dinner to be held at the end of May - exact date and venue yet to be fixed.

WILKINSON LODGE: Work party held last weekend. Two years supply of wood gathered. An outside woodshed was constructed to save space inside (passage and storeroom). A set of notes for winter parties to be drafted by Lodge Manager. Expenses (including \$92.90 for building materials for the woodshed) for the month totalled \$257.88.

CONSERVATION: Christine Nicol was elected Conservation Convenor. There is formal notice elsewhere in this issue of "News" of a motion to be put to the April General Meeting that the club seek affiliation with the Conservation Council of Victoria.

S.T.A.V. Annual General Meeting to be held 3 May, 1978. Redmond Barry building, Melbourne University, 7.30 p.m.

DUTY ROSTER: 19 April Caroline Strickland, Michael Griffin, 26 April - Bob Douglas, Alison Blaker; 3 May Eileen Ayre, Graham Wills-Johnson; 10 May Rex Filson, Bob Douglas; 17 May Elizabeth Quarterman, Geoff Crapper.

Meeting held 3 April, 1978  
Next Meeting 1 May, 1978 14 Hosier Lane, 7.00 p.m.  
VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

CLUBROOM CLEANUP

14 HOSIER LANE

Do come along on Wednesday May 3 at sometime between 5.15 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. to help cleanup the clubrooms. The more who come, the less time it will take and the easier it will be!

FEDERATION

The Federation A.G.M. will be held on Tuesday May 2, 1978 at 7.30 p.m. in the Conference Room, Sports Council Building in Swan Street, near Olympic Park. (Coffee and sandwiches 6.30 p.m. onwards before the meeting).

Business: Election of office bearers for 1978.

It is understood that constitution amendments will be discussed to confer:-

- (i) voting rights to sub-committee, committee chairman.
  - (ii) Associate membership to individuals who are not members of any walking club.
- Mike Feller will represent the Federation of the 4 day Wilderness Symposium/Workshop at Canberra College of Advanced Education in July, 1978.

Bulldozing of trees has begun at the bottom of the Bungalow spur in conjunction with the 113 block subdivision at Harrietville.

The "Bushwalking & mountaineering leadership handbook" (Stuart Brookes and others) will be available soon at \$2.50. Copies will most likely be available for purchase in the club-rooms.

Concern was expressed over the bulldozing of a fire trail linking Mt. Despair and Wonnangatta Valley - members are urged to write letters of protest to Minister for Forests, Hon. F.J. Granter.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

ELSEBETH HANSEN, 9 Yule Street, Ashburton, 3147. Home Tel. 25 4012 Bus. 277 5022.

CHRIS NICOL, Flat 6, 28 St. Georges Road, Armadale, 3143. Home: 509 8035.

SUSAN G. FORRESTER, P.O. Box 146, Montrose, 3765. Bus. 728-1353

ALEX RICHARDSON, Home: 211 0862

TIM ANDREWS, 21 Flowerdale Road, Glen Iris, 3146.

LANCE FARMER, 9 Clarence Street, Elsternwick, 3185.

ALEX & MARGARET STIRKUL, Home 850 7493 (Bus.) (Alex) 359 7091.

1/2 YEARLY DINNER

SAT. 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 1978  
AT

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PRICE \$11-00 PER HEAD (DEPOSIT \$5-00)

MEAL INCLUDES : APPETIZER - ASSORTED GREEK FOOD

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DESSERT - CHOICE OF 2

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LIQUID REFRESHMENTS : B. Y. O.

Bookings Shelly Hayes (H) 786 4306  
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EASTER AT WILKY

Oh what a superb 5 days! Away from the city and all its trappings, the transistors, the news of the world. We were certainly a cosy little group. Lynn Ratcliffe and Crystal (5½) and Bradley (3½), and Rex and Sue Filson, Mathew and Timothy.

We, L. C. and B. arrived on Tuesday night. We were warned about the possible hazard of driving through fog on reaching Falls Creek. The dense, wet fog, driven by the wind was to be seen to be believed. During this hazardous drive we encountered an owl and two rabbits (one just had to be the Easter Bunny!). After desperately referring Rodney's map, (what a life-saver), we reached the barrier.

After precariously feeling our way down the track we left the car, torch in hand and endeavoured to find the shape of Wilky. I couldn't for the life of me work the Tilly lamp, but, I intended to turn on the water at all costs, which I finally did after much reading and fiddling about.

Good Friday

As Rex, Sue and family didn't arrive until lunch-time we walked to Wallace's Hut in the morning. The children were very impressed by the fact that Wallace's Hut was at least 100 years of age and the oldest hut on the high plains. (Do you know about the ever-present bottle of Scotch at Wallace's? Apparently it is very rarely touched - it is a shame that Rex told me about it on the day we were going home! A nip now and again does not go astray).

After having a very curious inspection of Wallace's, we headed off for Rocky Valley Dam. It was a glorious fine day with the sun glistening on the water. Such peace, quiet and serenity. We then had a short bush bash around the edge of the dam.

During the afternoon, the children saw a baby copper-head snake. Thank God I wasn't there - they are not exactly my cup of tea.

Saturday

After lounging around during the morning we set off to Cope Hut after lunch. We were getting into practice for the long trek planned for Sunday and Monday. Weather fair - sunny patches with a brisk wind. Cope Hut is certainly a delightful place, and at the time it was inhabited by 2 groups of people, one group being female Rover scouts (never heard the likes!! so I was told).

The evening brought another delightful dinner, (including beef stroganoff by Sue and scrumptious pancakes cooked by Rex), along with several glasses of red and white. Mostly, we went to bed early. After all the exercise, fresh air, loads of tucker, and a small partaking of wine, one would expect to be tired.

One of the most enchanting characteristics of Wilky, (when one wakes up), is the beautiful view of the snow-gums through the loft window, and the superb hue of the sunrise.

Sunday

One thing we couldn't get away from. Easter eggs! We were awoken at day break with demands re.the Easter Bunny!

By 9.00 a.m. we were all packed up ready to embark on an adventurous 2 day stint to Fitzgerald's Hut and back. It was certainly a "first" for me and a wonderful experience for the children. We set off in dense fog, along the aqueduct. We had morning tea at Langfords Gap, continuing along the aqueduct and then slogging up the Marm point track to the snow poles and then on to Fitzgeralds.

Rex, Sue and Mathew then set out to find Kelly's Hut, which apparently has evaded several members of the club before. After walking around the 'mulberry bush' for 3 miles, they found Kelly's which is only ½ mile away, over the hill, among a clump of trees.

After lighting a roaring fire, we were invaded by about 20 members of the Vic. Tramping Club.

(Continued)

I suddenly felt that we were in Bourke Street with many different faces opening the door and peering in.

After becoming accustomed to the character of the hut and the wind whistling through the hole in the door, we settled down to a very comfortable night. Rex certainly did a sterling job with the dinner. He had no less than 5 billies hanging over the fire and the use of 2 frying pans. Potatoes cooked in the coals were also featured. What a feast!!

The furniture in the hut is certainly antique, adding a fascinating aura to the scene. The dresser and the chairs were made from slatted wooden packing bases. The chairs have certainly stood the test of time, as a couple of them were more than 30 years old.

#### Monday

After being squashed like a sardine all night on a fairly narrow double bed, I thought it high time to get up with the sunrise. It was very chilly to say the least. What must it be like in winter? Freeze the you know what off the you know what!!

After rugging up with every conceivable piece of warm clothing, we loaded up, (not forgetting the delicious breakfast cooked by Rex, again), to start the journey home. The day was reasonably fine, but the wind was howling. It simply bit into one's face and made lovely goose pimples on the legs.

As it was too breezy to lunch outside we sought refuge again in the hut at Langfords Gap. Once again, Rex saving the day with Hot soup to warm the chilled bones.

Not to forget Sue, she sure is a "mushroom dog" - collected a whole hatful of mushies. They went down very well with the baked vegetables and meat for dinner. Not to forget the 1½ doz. Hot cross buns that were also consumed.

We have also decided to initiate a prize of the year to the best bushwalker for 1978. We are awarding it to little Bradley for walking approx. 13 miles in 2 days.

#### Tuesday

Come pack-up and clean up day. At least we had the satisfaction of making less trips to the car with boxes of food.

So to the end of a most enjoyable and relaxing holiday. I was left with such a good feeling, that going back to work was very bearable.

Compiled and written by Lynn Ratcliffe  
and Mathew Filson

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Super down sleeping bags - ~~£~~80.00 (discount price)

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Thank you to everyone who supplied Articles for "News" this month. Special thanks to Caroline Strickland for typing the Constitution and to Janet White for typing the Article "Becoming a weekend Walker". To all those whose Articles didn't appear this month, my apologies but space was limited and they will certainly appear in next month's issue. Articles are still required however and please forward them to "News Convenor", C/- 53 Riverside Avenue, North Balwyn, 3104 or hand them to me (Alison Blaker) in the clubroom.

"NEWS" CONVENOR

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SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Rates for this year are as follows:-

Member over 18	£8	"News" Subscriber	£3
Junior Member 16-18	£4	Husband and wife	£12
Visitor (on all walks)	£1		

NOTE - Members who allow subscriptions to lapse must requalify for membership approximately 3 months after A.G.M.

1978 SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM

Please complete and post to Membership Secretary, Melbourne Bushwalkers, P.O. Box 1751Q., G.P.O., Melbourne Vic., 3000 or

Complete and give to Membership Secretary, Elizabeth Quarterman or Marilyn Blizzard in club rooms, 14 Hosier Lane, Melbourne.

Enclosed please find cheque/money order/cash for £ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Member/Junior Member/Husband and Wife/"News" Subscriber) for my/our renewal of membership to The Melbourne Bushwalkers.

(MEMBER, or JUNIOR MEMBER, "NEWS" SUBSCRIBER)

NAME in full: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Block letters) Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ms \_\_\_\_\_ (Given name)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: (Private) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

(HUSBAND AND WIFE)

NAME in full: Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Block letters) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Surname) (Given name)

Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Given name)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (Private) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business)(Mr.) \_\_\_\_\_

(Mrs.) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Husband or Wife)

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERSCONSTITUTION1. NAME

The Club shall be known as the Melbourne Bushwalkers.

2. OBJECTS

The object of the Club shall be:

- (a) to bring together those who esteem bushwalking and mountain climbing;
- (b) to encourage a wider appreciation of the wild life and natural beauty of this country and to assist in its preservation;
- (c) to foster walking tours;
- (d) to foster social activity among the Members.

3. BADGE

- (a) The Club badge shall be in the shape of a vertical rectangle with the following design: A man with a pack, walking uphill, (in silver), silhouetted against a light blue sky. The sky is divided from the hill mass by a thin blue line sloping down to the right, starting 2/3 of the way from the top of the badge. The hill mass is dark blue, with MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS imprinted in silver on it. A thin silver border encloses the design.
- (b) The badge shall remain the property of the Club and shall be returned to the Committee on demand.

4. ASSOCIATIONS

The Club may, when it is deemed advisable, affiliate, co-operate or associate with any other body or organisation for the purpose of furthering the aims of the Club, provided that affiliation with any other body or organisation shall not be effected except by a decision of a majority of members present at a General Meeting. At least fourteen (14) days notice of the proposed affiliation shall be given in writing to each member. All affiliations with other bodies or organisations shall be listed in the Honorary Secretary's report.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to persons of both sexes, and in this Constitution words importing the masculine shall include the feminine also.

(a) A full member is one who fulfils all the following requirements:

- i) Qualifies, by completing to the satisfaction of the Committee, three Club programme day walks, each of qualifying standard, or two Club programme week-end walks, necessitating camping out. All Club walks shall be deemed qualifying walks except those marked non-qualifying on the programme.
- ii) Pays the prescribed fees;
- iii) Is of the full age of sixteen years.

(b)

- i) Life membership may be conferred on any person as a mark of high esteem and in appreciation of exceptional services to the club.
- ii) Life membership may only be conferred by resolution of an Extraordinary, Half-Yearly, or Annual General Meeting. For a meeting at which a proposal for Life Membership is to be debated, at least fourteen days notice of the proposal, in writing, shall be given to each member.
- iii) A Life Member shall have the same privileges as a full member.
- iv) A Life Member shall be exempt from membership fees.

- (c)
  - i) Honorary membership may be conferred on any person as a mark of esteem and in appreciation or anticipation of services rendered to the Club.
  - ii) Honorary membership may only be conferred by resolution of a General Meeting, and shall be for a period not extending beyond the following Annual General Meeting.
  - iii) An Honorary Member shall have the same privileges as a full member.
  - iv) An Honorary Member shall be exempt from membership fees.
- (d)
  - i) Absentee membership may be conferred on any member by the Committee at the member's request, if he will be absent from the State of Victoria for a period of at least six months. The term of Absentee membership shall not extend beyond the following Annual General Meeting.
  - ii) An Absentee member may not hold office in the Club, vote at General Meetings, or transact any business on behalf of the Club.
  - iii) An Absentee member shall be exempt from membership fees.
  - iv) In conferring Absentee membership the Committee is relieved of its responsibility to keep the member informed, as stated in Section 7 (f) of this Constitution.
- (e) Applications for membership shall be made on the prescribed form, such form to include an indemnity clause removing from the Club or its agents the responsibility for and/or liability in respect to any injury, loss or damage suffered by persons participating in Club activities. Applicants shall be proposed and seconded by two members, each of at least six months' standing in the Club.
- (f) The Committee shall have the right to refuse membership to any person provided that the proposer shall have the right of appeal to a General Meeting.
- (g) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Constitution, a person participating in not more than three qualifying walks in any Club year may be classed as a visitor without any obligation to become a member. No non-member shall participate in more than three qualifying walks in any Club year until he has submitted an application for membership to the Committee. He may then participate in walks while the Committee is dealing with his application. The Committee may fix a scale of charges for visitors.
- (h) The Committee may class certain minor walks, etc. as social activities. Any person may participate in such activities as a visitor.
- (i) The Committee shall have power to discipline members in such manner as may be deemed fit should a member's conduct warrant same. All reports, complaints and charges shall be received and dealt with by the Committee, provided that the member concerned shall have the right of appeal to the next General Meeting.

## 6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) The entrance fee and annual subscription for the ensuing twelve months shall be determined at each Annual General meeting.
- (b) Subscriptions for the ensuing year shall be due and payable at the Annual General Meeting, and any member whose fees are due and unpaid for three months shall cease to be a member.

...In the case of new members, the entrance fee and subscription shall be due immediately upon notification that the application has been accepted by the Committee. The Committee may, if it is deemed warranted by special circumstances, extend this period in the case of any individual member, such extension to be for a definite period, which may be extended from time to time as the Committee deems fit. Any such arrangement shall not be binding after the following Annual General Meeting, except as the incoming Committee shall decide.

## 7. OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

- (a) The Office Bearers shall consist of
- |                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| President                | Honorary Secretary            |
| Two (2) Vice Presidents  | Honorary Social Secretary     |
| Honorary Walks Secretary | Honorary Lodge Manager        |
| Honorary Treasurer       | Honorary "News" Convenor      |
| Honorary Magazine Editor | Honorary Membership Secretary |
- and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, to hold office for one year or until their successors shall have been elected. No President shall hold office for more than four years consecutively. The Committee shall, as necessary, define the duties of each Office Bearer.
- (b) The Committee shall consist of all Office Bearers and in addition five members of whom no more than three shall be of the same sex. Such members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and shall also hold office for one year, or until their successors have been elected.
- (c) All persons nominated for election to the Committee must be members of the Club and have been so for at least three calendar months prior to their nomination.
- (d) The Committee shall regulate its own procedures, and shall meet at least once during each calendar month. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. Any vacancy on the Committee shall be filled at the next General Meeting, except that vacancies in Office Bearers shall be filled at an Extraordinary General Meeting, of which seven days notice has been given, such meeting to coincide with the first General Meeting after the expiry of the seven days notice.
- (e) Absence from three out of five consecutive Committee meetings without reasonable excuse shall cause a Committee Member's seat to be declared vacant.
- (f) The Committee shall arrange all activities, keep a record of them, keep Club members and the public informed, and generally manage the affairs of the Club as provided for in this Constitution. The Committee is empowered to form such sub-committees as may be necessary. The Committee or Convenors of sub-committees may co-opt any person whose assistance may be deemed valuable.
- (g) The Club may buy, sell, hold, hire out, receive on hire, lend or receive on loan, or trust, any goods, real, personal moveable property or real estate, and enter into agreement with other persons or groups of people, incorporated or unincorporated, or undertake any action it deems fit, in pursuance of its objects.

- (h) The Committee shall at all times and in all matters, including the powers contained in the preceding paragraphs, be subject to the direction of the Club, and shall put into effect any resolution passed by a properly called and constituted General Meeting as provided in this Constitution.
- (i) The Committee shall amend or rescind any resolution, rule or appointment made by it by direction of a majority vote of a General Meeting called for this purpose, and at which are present not less than 20 percent of those members of the Club who are entitled to vote.
- (j) When a written agreement is entered into which is required to be signed on behalf of the Club, whether such agreement requires to be sealed or not, such agreement shall be executed by the President, and witnessed by the Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Walks Secretary.

#### 8. TRUSTEES

The property of the Club shall be vested in three Trustees, each to hold office for three years, to retire in rotation and to be replaced by one elected at each Annual General Meeting.

#### 9. MEETINGS

- (a) The Annual General Meeting, of which at least fourteen days notice shall be given in writing to each member, shall be held between the 14th and 28th days of February each year. The business shall be the reception of the Annual Report and Financial Statement, election of Office Bearers and Committee, and any other business that may be brought forward.
- (b) A Half-Yearly General Meeting, of which at least seven days notice shall be given in writing to each member, shall be held between the 14th and 30th days of September each year for the transaction of general business.
- (c) A Bi-Monthly General Meeting shall be held in the last week of April, June and November each year for the transaction of general business.
- (d) The Committee, in relation to any business, may also, whenever it thinks fit, and shall, upon receipt of a petition signed by at least ten members and stating the business of the meeting requested, call an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of discussing such business. At least fourteen days notice thereof shall be given in writing to each member, such notice to specify the nature of the business aforesaid. An Extraordinary General Meeting called pursuant to such a petition shall be held within thirty days after the Committee meeting following receipt of the petition.
- (e) Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum. The usual Parliamentary procedure shall be adopted at all meetings.
- (f) Election of all Office Bearers and Committee members shall be by secret ballot. A secret ballot may be held on any question if at least five members demand it.

#### 10. YEAR

The Club year shall end on the last day of January.

11. FINANCE

- (a) Accounts shall be opened in the name of the Club with a reputable bank, and any two jointly of the President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Walks Secretary shall operate on the accounts, provided that the signature of any one of them shall be sufficient endorsement for cheques, etc. paid into the Club's accounts. A Financial Statement shall be submitted to the Committee monthly.
- (b) Two auditors shall be elected annually, and shall audit all books, financial records, stocks, etc. at least half-yearly. Auditors may not hold any other office in the Club.

12. BY-LAWS

The Committee shall be empowered, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, to make such By-Laws as are deemed necessary.

13. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- (a) This Constitution shall not be amended except by a 60 percent majority of those present at an Extraordinary, Half-Yearly or Annual General Meeting. For a meeting at which an amendment is to be debated, fourteen days notice in writing, setting out the proposed amendment in full, shall be given to each member.
- (b) All proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be delivered in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 30 days prior to the appropriate meeting as defined in clause 13 (a).