



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

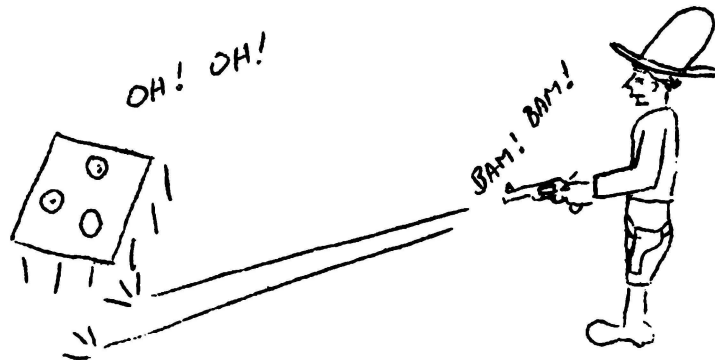
Edition 345

AUGUST, 1978

Price 3¢

Registered at G.P.O. for transmission by post as a periodical — Category B.

SQUARE DANCE



IT'S ON AGAIN — TIME TO LOSE YOUR EXTRA
WINTER WEIGHT

WHERE: MAIN RIDGE HALL

MAIN CREEK ROAD
MAINRIDGE

WHEN: 19th AUGUST '78

TIME: 8.00 P.M. SHARP!

CALLER: KEN HOOKE & CO.

ALL VERY WELCOME ESPECIALLY SINGLES
OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE

BOOKINGS — SEE SHELLY HAYES

\$5-00 PER HEAD
PLEASE BRING PLATE

All correspondence should be addressed to:-

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 7.30 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.

Day Walks

September 3 TOOLANGI - PAUL'S RANGE - HEALESVILLE Easy Medium

LEADER: Gerald Young
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.
FARE: \$3
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE: Yarra Glen 1:50,000 Sheet 7922-1
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 12 km.

We start at the road junction in Toolangi near the site of the burnt down pub at which the writer C.J. Dennis used to work on his novels. From there we walk westwards along a road for about 1½ km. to the head of Pauls Range. Along this first section we should be able to see much of the N/S ridge along which we will be walking. We turn south along a jeep track and follow an undulating ridge for 11 kms. to a stud farm on the Yarra Glen-Healesville Road. Part of the ridge is traversed by a walking track and at many points good views can be had of the hills of Kinglake National Park to the west and the Blue Mount Range to the East. Please bring water as there is none drinkable along the ridge.

September 10 POWELLTOWN - THE BUMP - LEARMONTH CK. ROAD Medium

LEADER: Arthur Francis
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.
FARE: \$4
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.00 p.m.
MAP REFERENCE: Neerim 1:50,000
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 15 km.

The walk takes us through some of Victoria's best lyrebird country. From Powelltown we follow an old timber tramtrack to the Bump. Then a climb to the ranges behind Powelltown along a nicely grassed track to the Kobiolke Fire Track and on to Learmonth Creek Road. Much of the walk is through dense rainforest and ferns, but higher up views of the Powelltown area are to be had.

September 17 BEACH WALK - TORQUAY - POINT IMPOSSIBLE - BARWON HEADS Easy

LEADER: Dorrie Warton
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.

A very pleasant walk, bring bathers if you are daring and brave.
See leader in the clubrooms or phone 92-8518.

September 24 MT. STEWART - MT. BROUGHTON - GOULBURN RIVER Easy Medium
(Seymour-Yea area)

LEADER: Robert Ayre
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 9.15 a.m.
FARE: \$4.00
EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 8.00 p.m.
MAP: Yea 1:50,000 National Mapping
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 18 km.

A pleasant, easy-medium walk along the green rolling hills of Yea, along the north side of the Goulburn river. Most of the walk is through farming country, with some unusual granite outcrops on the peaks, and patches of open forest in the gullies. We have an easy steady climb at the start, (700 ft. over 3 km.) a lunch spot with a view, a lot of undulations as we cross over to Mt. Broughton at the head of the

Switzerland Range, and finish with a long descent to the van. The starting point is at 339288 on the Seymour-Highlands road. Finish is at 414194.

September 28 SHOW DAY - SUNBURY - JACKSONS CK. - RIDDELL Easy Medium.

LEADER: Any Volunteers!!
(See Alex Stirkul in the clubrooms for details)

Weekend Walks

September 1-3 SNAKE ISLAND Easy

LEADER: Rex Filson
(See leader in club rooms or phone 88-3686).

September 15-17 MT. ROSEA - SERRA RANGE (Grampians) Hard

LEADER: Bill Metzenthien
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.
FARE: \$10.
MAP REFERENCE: Ararat 1:100,000 and Grampians 1:100,000
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 22 km.

I have not yet been able to preview the whole route which I intend to follow on this walk but it should be challenging with plenty of Grampians scrub and cliffs. The first day will start with an ascent of Mt. Rosea and with luck will finish at a camp site on the western slopes of the range near Mt. Lubra. On the second day an attempt will be made to follow the range to the road which crosses it a few km south of Mt. Frederick. Hampered by wet weather, the club attempt^{ed} to follow this route two years ago had to be abandoned on the first day. If you intend to come on this walk, please be fit. Due to a prior commitment I will not be in the club rooms on the 6th September.

September 15-17 YARRAM GAP - MT. WILLIAM RANGE - JIMMYS CK. (Grampians) Medium

LEADER: Graham Wills-Johnson
TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue, 6.30 p.m.
FARE: \$10
MAP REFERENCE: Grampians 1:100,000; Ararat 1:100,000
APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 10 km.

"What walk?" I said. "Yarram Gap to Jimmys Creek" said the voice of the Walks Secretary at the other end of the phone. "You're leading it, and the preview must be in by Wednesday night". "But I've never heard of either of them" I protested - "Where are they?" "In the Grampians" he said - so now you know as much about it as I do. I have just had a look at the maps, and it's that bit of the Mt. William Range south of the Mafeking where I doubt if the club has been for many years. We may have to drop down to find water to camp by on Saturday night, but the range isn't terribly high, so I don't think it should be too strenuous.

September 16-17 FEDERATION WEEKEND
(Clubrooms for details)

NOTE

If you are planning a Christmas trip, please see Alex Stirkul by mid-September in the clubrooms.

NEWS CONVENOR

News was printed earlier than usual as Garry and Gwenda are going on holidays, hope you both have a great trip. Please note that next month's issue of News, i.e. closing date will be Wednesday September 6th. Please see me in the clubrooms or forward articles to 53 Riverside Avenue, North Balwyn.

Alison Blaker

ASSORTED WAFFLE

NEWS is early this month, because Barry and Gwenda are going on holiday. (I wonder if the snow has anything to do with it?). So there are no Committee notes - we haven't even had the meeting yet. Two lots next month, you'll be overjoyed to hear. You'll be even more overjoyed to hear that when Alison remarked that she might be a bit short of material this month because NEWS would be a week early, I jumped in and said that we could make Assorted Waffle even longer and more boring than usual if that would help. I was careful to give her no chance to reply! Nothing could fill more space with greater tedium than to continue the endless saga of Old Cantankerous and misanthropic attitudes to tennis, so that seems as good a place to begin as any.

We looked at the 98/1 situation. We did not look at the 98/0 situation. If (in terms of last month's boring analogy), people have been playing draughts pretty openly in the club for years and Old Cantankerous has not objected, then that does have an effect on the situation in the grey areas of interpretation. In other words although Club A's constitution says that it is a chess club, by failing for a sufficiently long time to exercise his prerogative of challenging draughts-players, Old Cantankerous allows a situation to develop where the common understanding is that the word chess can be interpreted to mean board games not involving dice. It is the old legal principle that a landowner who is insufficiently zealous in protecting his rights can find that he has, by default, allowed a public right-of-way to be established across his land. In other words, if there are any members of this club who do not want to see it politicised, they have got to say so. In areas of interpretation, as in all other matters, the President is ultimately responsible to the club, though in a way that protects minority rights even in a 98/1 situation. I take it at present that the commonly-understood interpretation of section 2(b) is that it does not extend as far as the party-political sphere, but it could reasonably be interpreted as extending so far, and if nobody objects to its being so extended then the interpretation would have to be altered. I will certainly be looking to the September meeting for guidance in grey areas of interpretation. In the meantime, I must thank Gerry for the patience which is clearly shown in the way he has gone about things.

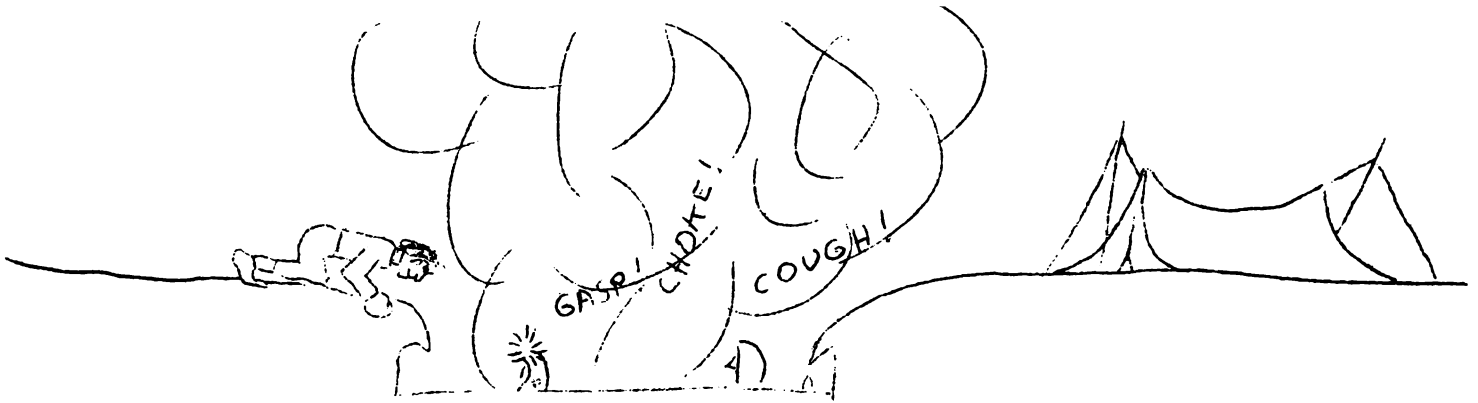
Taking last month's Assorted Waffle together with this, I think that more or less covers the situation as far as my duties are concerned. I would hope that, acting in accordance with what I have said, no member of the club could feel that her or his rights had been neglected. What follows now is an expression of purely personal opinion, carrying no more weight than 372 other personal opinions in the club, and entirely distinct and separate from what I have said above.

Personally, I would be reluctant to see the club politicised. In joining a club we make only a limited commitment, and we do not expect to be involved in divisive issues. I imagine that our individual political commitments are probably as diverse as those of the community as a whole, and I consider that it should, in a bushwalking club, be so. But if we insist on discussing matters in a party-political context, we must expect divisions to appear along party lines. Personally, I would regard this as a most undesirable development. There is a great deal to be said, in my opinion, for keeping it cool. Then again, there is the question of political effectiveness as far as the objects of the club are concerned (to assist in the preservation of our bushwalking country). To the extent that we have to drag concessions out of politicians, we are probably far more effective if they cannot put a party label on us than we would be if they could dismiss us as being committed to one side or the other (and if party politics were allowed to become an issue in the club I think we would gradually see one side or the other dropping out). On the other hand, with the status quo, we can have it both ways As a club, the politicians can never be quite sure who (in terms of party-committed votes) they are dealing with. As individuals, we can come out of the woodwork in the electorates (the only place where party-based threats are really effective). Why operate on only one level, when at present it is possible to operate on two?

----- W-J.

FOUND

On Geoff Crapper's Beginners' Ski-ing weekend - one pair of green nylon overtrousers near the campfire on Sunday afternoon. Could owner contact Geoff Law - 824314.



I TOLD YOU NOT TO BUILD THE FIRE ON TOP OF THAT SNOWDRIFT

L O P E Z

Last Sunday whilst previewing my walk I came across a man picnicing by the track with his wife. In the course of conversation the man said "Oh I dearly love the bush, and I've just bought all of my kids trail bikes so that they can enjoy it too!"

Alan Kitchener was seen riding his bike down Russell Street on his way to the clubrooms. At the Collins Street lights he took off in a cloud of smoke (rubber on the road) as he dragged off a 51 GTHO Falcon.

GWJ to Garry Wills - "Whats that dirty great big thing? I thought you only had a little one these cold days". Speaking of ice axes, Gerry McPhee returned one to Garry Wills on a recent Wednesday night, and son of Hodge grabbed it and proceeded to try to rake a meal to him from the other side of the dinner table.

After the clubroom cleanup on Wednesday the 2nd, a few of the more awake members of the club noticed that two of the lights above the landings were broken. The cleanup people must have been very energetic with their brooms and mops as they washed the roof.

At the beginners Ski-Touring weekend there were a lot of surprised skiers when they arrived at the Mt. Loch carpark on the Saturday morning as there was a blizzard blowing. After departing from the frozen car park via heated cars, the procession moved to a slightly less windy place where we were instructed on the elements of skiing without stocks - Geoff then tried to move uphill, but his "waxless" smooth soled skis failed to grip the icy snow. During the early afternoon the group retreated further from Mt. Hotham and the elements and pitched tents at J.B. plain.

The snow was falling lightly all Saturday afternoon when all were either trampling down the snow or digging down to the underlying ground. The fire took about 3 hours to get going and everyone was standing around it on Saturday night while trying to get warm and dry their outerclothing. The leader departed from our midst and took refuge in the hut to cook and sleep. During the night about 20 cm of snow fell on everything turning it white, covering the wood that had been collected for the breakfast fire. A few tents collapsed on their heavy sleeping occupants and Ross's new goose-down bag decided to attach itself to the wall of the tent. It took a lot of coaxing to separate the bag from the side of the tent. The shady scorpions tent was a total mess with snow everywhere. It started as a three man tent and finished the night as a collapsed one man tent - but luckily for him he also shared the refuge hut. Sunday the sun was shining strongly and the party of about 50 ski-'d to Dinner Plain and returned to camp for lunch. The drive home was fought with danger as there was an almost complete white-out at Mt. Hotham and a few cars ran into the snow at the side of the road. During the same weekend a group of experienced skiers tried to ski across the razorback - they got to the Diamantina Spur pitched camp and stayed in their tents for 16 hours waiting for the skies to clear. At the same time the group at Wilky were having a sauna with the temperature inside at about 90°F - after they got hot enough they ran outside to roll in snow to cool down. In the party of revellers, there were 5 Kitcheners in a group of 7. The kitchen was full of Kitcheners during mealtime. Their car was covered with piles of snow. After digging his car out, he went and returned his skis, the chap next door shovelled his snow over the K's car. Next he shovelled his snow and a snow plough moved it - third time was lucky and they got away.

Caroline got drunk on one glass of lemon squash and consequently fell down the stairs, didn't lose her heels though.

Ross would like to work in a photographic laboratory so he could watch all the slides coming out.

WALK 1979

There has been a good response with articles for Walk 1979 and type setting should commence this month. To facilitate type setting articles need to be typewritten and naturally, many articles submitted for Walk are in handwritten form. If any typists in the club would care to type one or more Walk Articles, I would be most grateful.

Special cheerio to Shelly Hayes who has broken her toe. Pleased to hear the brandy bottle is still in tact - pity to waste it!! Hope you're feeling fit again soon Shelly.

LETTER TO NEWS CONVENOR

1. With regard to the President's bell-ringing broadsides may I, as an unrepentent sinner, reject the holier-than thou attitude which so often seems to cling to those noble people who do all the work.
2. Dear me. How terrible to have omitted my name from the letter which appeared above Janet White's letter suggesting that people who write letters shouldn't omit their names. (I think that's right).

MICHAEL GRIFFIN

"Have you got your copy of "On Foot", the new Federation journal. The first copy is free and may be picked up at the clubroom or at bushwalking shops. \$2 will ensure that subsequent issues over the next 12 months will be mailed directly to you. The success of this FVWC venture depends greatly on the amount of support from members of walking clubs.

THE EDITOR,
NEWS

I would like to reply to the two points made by Geoff Crapper in his "Along the Track" article, concerning Geoff Law and me.

Firstly, Geoff C. implied that Geoff L. and I were careless in being so far ahead of the party and to be out of touch with the leader. In fact we had openly discussed going on ahead and even examined the map with him to determine if our route to the van was straightforward. If it was not, then of course we would have remained with the party. At the time, everyone thought we were in the home stretch and that we would be at the van within the hour.

Secondly, Geoff C. says that we (i.e. he and the party) found Bob and Geoff L. who had been floundering around in a town called Jallculla. In fact Geoff L. and I, on reaching a town called (we think) Jullawalla, realised our mistake and commenced to navigate our way back to where we should have been. By an amazing stroke of luck, we reached the road at the point where the others happened to be at that time. So, after our mistake, it was a mixture of good judgement and good luck which caused us to be re-united with the party.

May I also record my thanks to Pam and Trevor Lambeth. The fact that their car was the very first which stopped for the party when we reached the highway was the second amazing stroke of luck at night, at least for Geoff L. and me.

Bob Douglas

ADVERTISEMENT

I have recently decided to buy an extra length of foam mat to put under my feet when snow-camping. I have had to buy a much longer length than I need and therefore have some spare foam left over. If anyone is interested in buying all or part of what is left, for the same purpose or any other, could you please let me know.

Bob Douglas B 630 6174
H 419 6427

Reminder

All those intending to come on the Ski-tour of the Snowy Mountains (September 2 to September 10), should contact me by 20th August, 1978 please, to arrange final details of transport and itinerary.

Bob Douglas.

New Members for August to be listed next month.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Derek Black,
2/2E Bendigo Street,
Cheltenham, 3192.

David Davies,
3/315 Flemington Road,
North Melbourne, 3051.

Michael Griffin,
Flat 2, 66 Gipps Street, East Melbourne, 3002 Phone (b) Monday and Wednesday
666046 Ext 586.
Tuesday and Thursday,
4792479 or 4792150

CHANGE OF PHONE NO's. AND CORRECTIONS ON MEMBERSHIP LIST

Graham Wills-Johnson	Home: 527 4720
	Bus: 341 2127
Sue Oldfield	Bus: 363 1000
Simon Arnold	Bus: 534 2014
Mark Connor	Bus: 389 1437
Bob Douglas	Bus: 630 6174
Harold Goetz	Bus: 389 1437
Spencer George	Home: 036 4225
Eilenn Ayre	Work: 550 6444
	Home: 900 431
Lance Farmer	Home: 523 5975
	Work: 534 2014
Rod Mattingley	Work: 350 1222 Ext. 721

All Members note:

Would you please notify the membership secretary promptly of any changes of address and phone no's.

Thank you, Libby Quarterman

CAMPFIRE CARE

Don't leave your fire for dead because
The ash LOOKS cold and grey.
Keep dousing it with water till
The sizzle dies away.

THE WHY OF BUSHWALKING

Bushwalking is not so much a sport
As a way and a philosophy of life

The challenge of mountain peaks and cliffs and canyons,
Of time, distance and weather
The tests of physical fitness, mental alertness,
Commonsense and bushcraft

The beauty and quietness of the wilderness, the birds,
The flowers, the forests and streams,
The overwhelming awareness of clouds, storm, sunrise, and
Clear, brilliant stars

The comradeship, the signing, the long, late discussions
By flickering campfires

These are just some of the reasons why we people
of the little tents shoulder a rucksack
And head off into the blue.

Compliments Stuart Hodgson