



THE NEWS

OF THE MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS

Edition 345(2)

APRIL, 1979

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MID - YEAR DINNER

- WHERE:** The Greek Taverna,
172 Toorak Road, South Yarra.
- WHEN:** Saturday 19th May.
- HOW MUCH:** A very reasonable \$12.00 per head for a three course meal.
- TUCKER:** Exotic Greek cuisine
- GROG:** Bring your own.
- WHAT TIME:** 7.30 p.m. to the other side of midnight.
- DRESS:** Smart casual and good dancing shoes.
- BOOKINGS OR MORE DETAILS:** Prue Hardiman (W) 60 21333 x 533

"PLATE SLASHING IS A MUST FOR EVERYBODY"

Wednesday 2nd May

Rob Harris will present a very informative and picturesque slide night on the 2nd on the south coast of Tasmania, Cradle Mountain and Lake St. Clair National Park

Friday 18th May

Federation Ball to be held at 8.00 p.m. in the Hawthorn Town Hall. Folk dancing to music provided by "Brown Jug Band" and "Pattersons Curse". Tickets cost \$5.00 each, all profits to go to the Federation. Bring your own grog, glass and grub. See Prue in clubrooms for tickets.

Saturday 19th May

Mid-Year Dinner at Greek Taverna, South Yarra - see previous notice for details.

Notices

General Meeting to be held on 25th April, 1979.

See page 2 for report of A.G.M.

Club clean up to be held on May 2nd 5.15 p.m.

"Wildlife in Australia" magazines - back issues are available in clubroom at half price - 50 cents each.

Please check with Helen and Harald for lost property as unclaimed equipment will be cleared out shortly.

Peter Bullard urgently requests articles for Walk Magazine if you want it to be printed this year. Black and white photographs are also requested.

Quote from Tyrone Thomas "I'd take a beginner if its a guy, but not if it's a girl".

Summary of the A.G.M. held on 28th February, 1979 at the V.R.I.

- Reports as published in the February News were accepted as read, with the following additional information:-
- Over half the copies of Walk 1979 had been distributed, and there was no apparent explanation for the decrease in walk attendances.
- Art Terry made a speech of thanks to Dennis Barson in appreciation of his work in driving the Gronows van for club walks for many years - a presentation of a pack, stove and gas lights was made to Dennis.
- Elections were held next and the results are as follows:-

President	Robert Steel
Vice Presidents	Elizabeth McKenzie & Rex Filson
Secretary	Graeme Laidlaw
Auditors	Ronald Taylor & Philip Taylor
Treasurer	Robert Ayre
Walks Secretary	Alex Stirkul
Membership Secretary	Elizabeth Quarterman
Social Secretary	Prue Hardiman
News Editor	Rosemary Gosling
Walk Editor	Peter Bullard
Wilkinson Lodge Manager	Rodney Mattingley
General Committee	Ian Hargreaves Jim Hedstrum Kenneth McMahan Marijke Mascas Sandy Dart
Trustee	Graham Mascas

- Membership fees remain the same as last year.
- General Business - The A.G.M. recommended that the committee deal with Federation capitation (i.e. club memberships fee of F.V.W.C.) without prejudice.
- Gerry McPhee President of F.V.W.C. addressed the meeting briefly on the current state of the Federation.
- A letter from Sue Filson was read regarding the lack of leaders for walks programs.
- It was decided that we seek a quieter venue for the next A.G.M. - various people to seek out alternative meeting places.
- A motion to vote \$200 for the President and Committee to hold an annual Committee dinner was lost.
- Finally, Gerry McPhee and Art Terry moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee.

PLEASE NOTE:-

Correspondence should be addressed to:-

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

COMMITTEE NOTESMEETING HELD ON 2ND APRIL, 1979.

All committee members present except Rosemary Gosling who was at night school.

We still need a Conservation Convenor - any volunteers? Graham Mascas was a special guest at the meeting, and he addressed the meeting on Search and Rescue. There was a search at Mt. Buffalo over the weekend 23rd - 25th March, 1979. Only one M.B.W. searcher took part (Graham Mascas) and only ten F.V.W.C. searchers were available on the first call out on Friday night. It is hoped that the Federation Search and Rescue Organization can be smartened up in the near future. Graham Mascas is now our delegate, with Jim Hedstrum as observer.

Correspondence received included a letter re consumer rights and obligations (printed elsewhere in this News) a letter from a travel organization promoting an adventure holiday in Hawaii and an advance copy of an article to appear in April Readers Digest about safety in the bush.

The Treasurer reported that we had \$4,013.36 in the bank and accounts for payment totalling \$98.98 were approved. The walk attendances in March totalled 193, comprising 133 daywalkers and 60 weekenders. A profit of \$136 was made on the vans for the month. There were 118 financial members at the end of March.

Rex Filson reported on significant F.V.W.C. matters. A meeting was held on 6th March at which the proposed Federation fees was discussed, but a decision was postponed till the A.G.M. in May. There was much discussion about the re-building of huts on Mt. Bogong. It seems certain that Bitovac Hut will be rebuilt on Staircase Spur and some sort of Hut or shelter on the summit. It is unlikely that Maddisons will be rebuilt. This club and Federation is opposed to replacing the summit hut or Maddisons. It is possible that a hollow cairn may be erected on the summit. Also the Federation has produced audio visual presentation of slides, promoting the Victorian Alps, and the concept of an Alpine National Park. This club is donating \$50.00 towards the cost of the project. The slide show will be available to schools, clubs etc. There will be a street walk on 27th April to promote the Alpine National Park.

The Newsletter from the Ski Touring Association of Victoria included information about the replacement of huts on Mt. Bogong and also about the proposal by the Falls Creek Committee of Management to allow almost unrestricted use of oversnow vehicles on the Bogong High Plains and the operation of helicopter joy flights in the Falls Creek area, including the transporting of skiers to the Mt. Nelse area. It was resolved that the Secretary write to the Premier, the leader of the Opposition and other relevant Victorian State Politicians regarding the above matter and objecting strongly to the use of oversnow vehicles without due regard to the rights of other snow country users.

The Social Secretary reported on a number of activities which she has lined up and notices appear on the front page regarding these.

MAY WALK PREVIEWSDay WalksMay 6th BROADFORD - YEA

LEADER: Art Terry

TRANSPORT: Train departing Spencer St. 9.25 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9.30 p.m. (Bus leaves Yea approx 7.30 p.m.)

MAP REFERENCE: Tallarook 1:50,000 and Yea 1:50,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 30 miles

Buy a single to Broadford (Seymour line), travel light as possible - running shoes or gym boots are essential. Hope to see the veterans of this run/climb taking part again - heard a whisper that Sandy Ireland may be joining us again; would be nice to have you with us Sandy. Bring lunch and water.

May 13th BREAK O'DAY - GLENBURN

LEADER: Jim Wilcock

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., 9.15 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.00 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE: Glenburn 1:50,000 - North of Kinglake

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 11 km.

Commences south of Break O'Day at GR 347809 and ends at road junction south of Glenburn GR 434806.

Overall this is a down-hill walk - 1,850' at start and down to 1,000' at finish but of course there are a few ups and downs in between these two points. Walk follows some of the very confusing logging tracks through the state forest, typical Stringy Bark, Yellow Box and bracken country, and also involves some scrub busting to provide a little interest. If weather is wet a pair of over-pants will be necessary if you wish to remain dry; dry clothes are advised for the van trip home.

Probably a new area for us and whilst classified easy./medium the walk will be more easy than medium; not a long walk but I hope it will be enjoyable and finish in time for a reasonable hour of return home. Bring your own water for lunch and other stops.

May 20th LANG LANG - MOSQUITO HILL - NYORA

Have not received particulars for this walk. Please see Chris Murphy in clubrooms on Wednesday nights.

May 27th GRANITE - FALLS CREEK - MT. HICKEY (Mt. TALLAROOK)

LEADER: Philip Taylor

TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., at 9.15 a.m.

EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 7.00 p.m.

MAP REFERENCE: Tallarook 1:50,000

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 19km (12 miles)

To the east of Broadford lies some of the prettiest country close to Melbourne. This walk takes in a variety of that country. There are excellent views of the Goulburn Valley and the surrounding hills from several vantage points on the walk. The walk is through varied country starting with open paddocks and changing to forest around Mt. Hickey. Just the walk for pre-winter blues or getting fit for the coming skiing season. Please bring water for lunch.

Weekend Walks5-6 May FRASER NATIONAL PARK - COOK POINT - BLOWHARD SPUR

LEADER: Tyrone Thomas
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., on Saturday at 1.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9 p.m.
 MAP REFERENCE: Fraser National Park (Park publication)
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 16 km (10 miles) Easy.

This walk to Fraser National Park is for newcomers to camping especially and involves only 16 kms. walking over one and a half days. We will leave Melbourne at 1.30 p.m. on the Saturday and walk 5 kms. to camp from our drop off point on Skyline Road. The afternoon involves an easy downhill descent to Devil Cove campsite beside Lake Eildon and in an area renowned for kangaroos, tame rosellas and tame noisy mina birds. The camp has hot showers and tap water supply. An evening stroll along the 2 km. Candlebark Gully Nature Trail is an optional extra.

Sunday involves following Lake Eildon shore for 5 kms. to Cook Point for an early lunch then the ascent of the Blowhard Spur back to The Skyline Road. Views are an outstanding feature for the afternoon climb of 6 kms.

11-13 May EIGHT MILE HUT - ROCKY RIDGE - THE BLUFF - HOWQUA RIVER

LEADER: Barbara Bryan (H) 87 63928
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Avenue at 6.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: 9 p.m.
 MAP REFERENCE: VMTC King, Howqua & Jamieson rivers
 APPROXIMATE DISTANCE: 25 kms. (16 miles)

Friday night's camp will be at Sheeppyard Flat on the Howqua River. The walk will commence (after a brief van trip) with a steep climb up Rocky Ridge from Eight Mile Hut site, to the summit of The Bluff (5,650 feet elevation). The 360 degree view is superb and well worth the climb. Camp will be near Bluff Hut (water available). Sunday will involve a steep descent down a jeep track to the Howqua River, then a pleasant walk along a riverside track to Ritchies Hut for lunch, and finally back to Eight Mile Hut site (and van).

You MUST carry water for Saturday's lunch. Come and visit some glorious alpine country before the winter sets in.

25-27 May MT. FRANKLIN - GLENLUCE SPRINGS - ELPHINSTONE

LEADER: Neil Priestley
 TRANSPORT: Van from Batman Ave., at 6.30 p.m.
 EXPECTED TIME OF RETURN: Not too late
 MAP REFERENCE: Daylesford and Castlemaine 1" to 1 mile

Friday night camp will be a picnic area (extinct I hope!) volcano Mt. Franklin north of Daylesford. Walk will be from picnic area up over rim of crater easterly to The Bluff then N./easterly to Loddon River and Glenluce Springs for Saturdays camp. Sunday will be via Fryerstown to Elphinstone. Most of the walk will be open country with good views except from Fryerstown when the country is not so open and some evidence of early goldmining activities may be seen. NOTE: Please bring water for Friday night/Saturday as Friday night's camp is dry.

L O P E Z

"TURN RIGHT AT BENAMBRA FOR NATIVE DOG FLAT"

"NO, ITS STRAIGHT ON FROM WULGULMERANG!"

"RUBBISH! TURN LEFT JUST BEFORE BONANG"

"YOU'RE ALL WRONG, YOU COME DOWN THE ROAD INTO
BENAMBRA AND TURN LEFT"

After making his usual train noises for a few hours one night, Hoo was asked why he hadn't joined the railways - in reply he said "Because I haven't been in training."

On Hugh Duncan's circular walk around Marysville last month, there were a few tired walkers and a lothargic leader so they didn't climb the last mountain but decided to walk around the mountain and ended up at the Marysville Fruit Salad Farm. While on the farm, they ate it out of fruit salad and all decided that eating was more pleasurable than walking. After the walk, the leader was heard to exclaim "I suppose I like Spumante because its so like me - sweet and bubbly!"

When asked about how to get to the start of an extended trip Rod replied - "You go to Benambre and turn right". Upon hearing those instructions, a well travelled bushwalker replied "You must be going to Native Dog Flat, I'm glad that I'm not going there because I'd probably end up at Wilky".

Those that went on the Wilky beginners weekend had a good time - with snow, hail and sleet on the Saturday, coupled with a good fire and an excellent new stove. The Sunday of the trip was better with lots of sunshine, with Drambuie and Tokay to wash lunch down. The well known ten year old Social Secretary was heard protesting "The names not "Decade-ants" it Prude-ants". The Saturday night at Wilky was quite an event, with musical tones playing to entertain the residents (Ratto and friends) - composed of Elder Hodgson playing the mouth organ, Janet McCredie playing the flute, Ian Hargreaves playing the (wooden) spoons, and younger Hodgson playing the fool.

Pru and Stu had a shattering experience on the way home from Wilky - the windscreen on Stu's 36 hour old V.W. shattered. After getting a toughened windscreen, the garage man showed how tough the windscreen was by pounding (er-dollarling - we're metricated now) the windscreen with a mallet.

Harald was in the swing of things on his April Fools Day walk when he imitated the Duke of York, by marching the party up a hill then marching them back down. A few of the walkers were not amused.

On the same weekend, a private trip went down to Wilsons Prom, with the expressed wish to take 20 copies of Walk 1979 to the store at Tidal River. Yes, you "gassed" it, the same Rusty Springs who was featured on page 62 left them at home. She claimed that curlytops should have told her to put them in the car, but the weekend wasn't a total loss as the weather was good for $1\frac{3}{4}$ days, with rain for only a few hours.

In keeping with the religious theme of the current month - how many weeks belong to a year. Forty six, because the other six are Lent!". Also, the pilgrimage to the Walls of Jerusalem is going by chartered plane this year and is being led by that Moonee puddle site "Little Willy".

In Tyrone's recent walk some "deep" thoughts bubbled up. Did you know that Tyrone has had experience with young women before? Not only that, he likes his women hot and sticky. Rodney's comment was that he was unobtainable after 5 p.m.

Our ex-President has $\frac{1}{2}$ a griller for sale. In a recent trip to Mt. Bogong,

Lopez cont'd....

when his griller broke, he discovered that he can cook his steak just as easily on $\frac{1}{2}$ griller therefore reducing the weight in his pack, maybe he is learning at last!

The painters of the stairwell of the clubrooms had a good time painting the walls, each other and the stairs. At one stage there was a few size 9 footsteps in yellow paint on the landing. The "fantom" painters then tried to pretend that the steps were grass and painted the landings green.

Chris Thompson and I recently sat down to calculate the cost of a drive to Wilky and we thought the results were significant enough to publish. We used my car, a Renault 12, as a yardstick. The relevant data is:-

Distance - 240 x 2 miles
Petrol - \$1.20/gallon

Annual mileage for my car - 8,000 miles
Consumption for my car - 30 miles/gallon

The calculations are:-

Petrol $\frac{240 \times 2}{30} \times \$1.20 = \$19.20$

Service: At an average \$100 a year for 2 services

$\frac{240 \times 2}{8000} \times \$100 = \$3.20$

(Tyres at 30,000 miles
(usage and \$200 replacement cost

Brakes: At 25,000 miles usage and \$180 repair and service

$\frac{240 \times 2}{3000} \times \$200 = \$3.20$

$\frac{240 \times 2}{25000} \times \$180 = \$3.45$

Registration, Third Party, Comprehensive Insurance

at \$240 a year

$\frac{240 \times 2}{8000} \times \$240 = \$14.40$

Total = \$19.20 + \$6.00 + \$3.20 + \$3.45 + \$14.40 = \$46.25

This is easily remembered as

$\frac{(46.25)}{480 \times 3/5} \$ \text{ per km.} = 6 \text{ cents/km.}$

or, for 3 people to Wilky, approx \$15.50 each.

(There might be a case for excluding insurance from this calculation and the use of LPG would reduce the fuel costs.)

We can calculate it another way.

Replacement cost \$7,000
Life 10 years

At \$700 and 3,000 miles a year, a trip to Wilky would cost $\frac{240 \times 2}{8000} \times 700 = \42

This is very close to the other calculation.

Cont'd.....

The implications of this bear thinking about. To me they are:-

Together with the rising cost of equipment (e.g. superdown) and having in mind the distance from Melbourne required for a good weekend walk, bushwalking is becoming a past-time for people with high disposable incomes.

This might mean that bushwalkers increase in number at a slow rate (or not at all) and hence lose influence in relation to other interest groups.

The pressures on the bush (e.g. huts and tracks) may be less.

There are fewer young bushwalkers, with all that means.

Finally, have you considered how you would cope on a trip, if as in New Zealand, our petrol stations were closed on weekends?

Bob Douglas.

V.N.P.A.

In "Parkwatch" (march) - the magazine of the Victorian National Parks Association:-

'Changing Horizons of the Alpine Region' by Dick Johnson (author of the book "The Alps at the Crossroads".)

'How many know that for many years there was a mine on the Champion Spur of Mt. Feathertop and a stamping battery 1,000 ft. below and that not so long ago Mt. Feathertop, had not a single stick of timber left on it?

The North Central Study Area

V.N.P.A.'s first submission to the Land Conservation Council.

This includes recommendations with regard to linear reserves (abandoned railway lines), areas suitable for National Parks status (a long list), and the dumping of toxic wastes (not in bushland).

A letter from Michael Faller on the F.V.W.C. draft tracks policy, which states that:-

- (1) No track should be constructed or marked in a wilderness area.
- (2) Any portion of the Alpine Walking Track which passes through a wilderness area should be down graded to an unmarked route.

Now available to talk at just about any sort of gathering (schools, clubs etc.) are V.N.P.A. speakers with access to the V.N.P.A. slide library:-

Contact: Mr. Tim Jones, (H) 34 79027
89 Park Drive, (W) 62 6561
Parkville, 3052.

Friends of the Organ Pipes (F.O.O.P.)

This group has working bees regularly (May 20th, June 10th) a barbecue June 23rd. The group was awarded the Royal Australian Institute of Architects "Robyn Boyd Environmental Award" Bronze Medal for 1978 (top award).

The new National Parks Act creates four new National Parks - Baw Baw, Snowy River, Tingaringly, Croajingalong.

V.N.P.A. Cont'd..

II Australian Conservation Foundation

The A.G.F. is planning money raising picnics on Sunday June 3rd (closest to World Environment Day June 5th) in National Parks. This year marks the centenary of Australia's first National Park (Sydney's Royal National Park).

HOW TO GO ABOUT EXERCISING YOUR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

"Consumer Comments" by Harald Goetz (News January, 1979) cannot go unchallenged. He appears to be implying that a shopkeeper must refund money:

- (a) if a purchaser changes his mind and no longer wants the goods.
- (b) if a purchaser discovers that the goods can be purchased elsewhere at a lower price.

This is not the case!

There is no price control in Australia (except at a State level on items like milk and beer), traders may charge what they like, it is up to the purchaser to shop around for the best price.

I enclose a paragraph from "Shoppers Rights", a publication produced by the Trade Practices Commission, which may interest readers of "News".

"Also remember, you have no right to cancel a purchase just because you have changed your mind. Unless you have goods on approval, you cannot expect a company to take them back if you no longer like the colour, the pattern etc. Of course, some companies have a policy of "the customer is always right" and may let you return the goods even if there is no fault, but that depends on the company's goodwill and is not your right. And remember when you pay by cheque, you in effect promise to pay the company the amount of the cheque. Thus, if you cancel a cheque you in effect break your promise and the company may sue you for breaking your promise, even if the goods are faulty."

Mr. Goetz has also confused the role of the Consumer Affairs Bureau and the Small Claims Tribunals; they are two separate organisations under the Victorian Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

The Consumer Affairs Bureau administers the Consumer Affairs Act, carried out consumer research and investigates complaints from the public.

The Small Claims Tribunals are "consumer courts" where consumers may have claims against traders resolved informally and inexpensively.

I hope my comments clarify the confusion which could arise from Mr. Goetz's no doubt well meaning comments.

Quotes - MORE - Poor Tyrone

During booting for his recent walk, Tyrone Thomas remarked "I'd take a guy on his first walk, but not a girl".

Further quote from Tyrone on his walk when two thirds up a steep grade, and the women were just catching up to most of the men:-

"I like my women hot and sweaty". At some distance below this point, one gentleman remarked - "Excuse me while I have a coronary".

PLEASE NOTIFY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY PROMPTLY WITH ALL CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS. THANK YOU LIBBY.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Brian Boynton, 11 Vernal Avenue, Mitcham, 3132.
 Brenda Hufnagel, 2 Walworth Avenue, North Caulfield, 3161. (H) 528 1591
 Ceridwen Law, 2/14 Halford Street, Castlemaine, 3450. (W) 72 1366
 Janet McCredie, 1/552A High Street, Prahran, 3181. (H) 51 7203 (W) 268 6156
 Terry Robinson, P.O. Box 191, Gisborne, 3437 (W) 350 1222 (W) Ext. 781
 Penny & Tony Stapley, 14 Lygon Street, South Caulfield, 3162 (H) 578 5623

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NO'S

Derek Black, 31 Leila Road, Ormond. (H) 57 82674 (W) 95 7232
 Pat & Paul Grey, 52 Madeline Street, Burwood, 3125 (H) 29 5964 (W) 69 76164
 David Harrison, 20 Queens Parade, Burwood, 3125. (H) 29 5956.
 Stuart Hodgson, 45 Rayner Street, Altona.
 Mr. G. Moore, P.O. Box 153, Kew 3101 (W) 42 94111
 Margaret Reimer, 20 Queens Parade, Burwood, 3125. (W) 29 5956
 Helen Waddell, 11 Lysterville Avenue, Malvern, 3144. (H) 50 97712 (W) 79 85234
 Pam Westgate, 10/25 Omama Road, Murrumbidgee, 3163.
 Keith White, Hinze Dam Kiosk, Advancetown, Nerang, Queensland 4211.

FOR SALE - 1 pair walking boots as new \$20.00. Contact Sandy Dart on 91 6670 after 6 p.m.

WANTED. A" frame tent in reasonable condition - contact Rosemary Gosling in clubrooms on Wednesdays.

KOKADA TRAIL 1979.

A brochure recently arrived in the mail advertising a new commercial trekking venture known as "Backpack New Guinea" which organises trips along the Kokoda Trail which was proclaimed a National Walking Track in 1972, but which is still regarded as one of the toughest walks in the world, climbing the rugged Owen Stanleys and the dormant volcano Mt. Lamington. Total cost (including fares) for a 16 day trip is about \$900. Season for the treks is from the 26th May to early October, 1979. Further information on noticeboard, clubroom.

HISTORICAL RECORDS

Following discussion by the committee as sub-committee of life-members to investigate means of archiving the Club's historical records was formed.

This sub-committee (made up of R. Filson, F. Halls and A. Schafer) recently held their first meeting in the city. They are now appealing to the general membership for any records which may be in the latter's possession. The most urgent item for which information is sought is the whereabouts of the minute books covering early years up to 1960.

If you can help please contact any of the above sub-committee; R. Filson (H) 88 3686; F. Halls (H) 97 3724; A. Schafer (H) 211 2649.

At the A.G.M. of the Melbourne Bushwalker's I offered to describe what the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs actually did. There are two problems in doing this. The first is the range of projects. The second is the difficulty of sorting out which the F.V.W.C. is spending most of its time on. The following list of jobs and activities reflects the difficulties of this. It is a list of four categories of F.V.W.C. projects; Top Priority, Essential, Optional and Relevant. If this list seems enormous - you're right.

TOP PRIORITY

- * Investigation of systems for handling information, enquiries and secretarial matters.
- * Information kits for distribution by others such as V.N.P.A., B.M.L.C. etc.
- * Alpine area conservation - Lobby politicians
- * Alpine area conservation - City Walk - Planning
- * Mt. Bogong huts - Replacement? Working Party
- * Establishment of New Clubs
- * "Family Walkabouts near Melbourne".
- * Federation Day Walk
- * Federation Hut maintenance work parties
- * PAMPHLETS: "Death by Exposure"
"Are you going walking in the Mountains"
"Don't lose your cool"
"Carry in, carry out/Children on bushwalks"
- * Recreation and land management seminar/workshop
- * F.V.W.C. Council -- standing orders
- * S. & R. Manual
- * S.W. Tasmania wilderness conservation
- * Snow Mobiles -- conflicts with Bus walkers-Controls.

ESSENTIAL

- * Alpine area conservation - Bushwalks for politicians
- * Industrial Assistance Commission hearing on walking gear
- * Treasury - Liaison regarding Annual grant
- * F.V.W.C. file organization - index files, relocate files
- * "Family Walkabouts near Melbourne" - Ethnic version
- * PAMPHLETS "About the Federation"
"About our member Clubs"
"List of all Victorian Bushwalking Clubs including: F.V.W.C. non-members"
"List of other Federations and other clubs in other States"
"Leadership Guidelines"
"Hut etiquette" to be encapsulated in plastic and posted in huts"
"Walk with a club" posters

Essential cont'd..

- * Recreation statistics
- * Bushwalkers Insurance
- * Investigate employment of part-time or full-time Secretary or Executive officer
- * Dandenong Ranges / Yarra Valley Walking track Network
- * Mornington Peninsula Walking Tract Network
- * Hut policy
- * Wilderness Policy
- * Snowpole policy
- * Cyclic maintenance of tracks - especially in Alps
- * S. & R. Practice
- * S. & R. Field Officer kit
- * Advantages of F.V.W.C. incorporated
- * Alpine area - cattle and erosion problems
- * S.C.A. - M.M.B.W. - Thompson catchment - permits and access
- * S.E.C. - Restrictions on camping in the Alps
- * National Bushwalkers Body
- * T.R.B. - Permits for commercial 4WD safaris
- * Alpine Walking Track.

RELEVANT

- * Federation Weekend
- * National Parks Assistance weekend
- * PAMPHLETS: "Mojave Desert" Recreation and Social Welfare
- * Camp In - 1979
- * Garden State Festival
- * Paper: Role of Deleगत to F.V.W.C. Council
- * Coastal Walking Track"
- * Hut Inventory
- * Fraser Island - Conservation Action
- * Car-pooling - fee collection legalities
- * F.C.V. - protection of routes / tracks through reserved forest

OPTIONAL

- * "Family Walkabouts near Melbourne" - book
- * "Life be in it "Walkabouts (day walks).
- * Basic skills courses
- * Bushie Balls" and other fund raising ventures
- * Film nights for rucksack recreationalists.
- * PAMPHLETS: "Alpine Walking track" map, list and letter
Bumper stickers "Bushwalkers get high on mountains".
"What to wear" poster
"Source list for equipment "list of shops and suppliers".
"Camping etiquette" camping leaving no trace
"Bibliography for Bushwalkers"

Optional cont'd...

"Federation Publication" List, including L.C.C. submission papers
 "What to pack, How to pack" poster
 Other posters - "Feathertop"
 "Birds in the Bush"
 "Banon Pass"

- * Trip planning - map for popular walking areas near Melbourne - Distances and times
- * Public Lectures / speaking
- * Display Material
- * Organize an audio visual presentation on Bushwalking
- * Establish a State Walking Track Council
- * Murray River Walking Track
- * "Hume and Howell" Walking track
- * "On Foot" policy/Guidelines
- * "Track Inventory" by area
- * Cyclic Maintenance of Huts
- * Off-road vehicle policy
- * Alpine area - Wonnangatta Logging
- * Alpine area - Mnt. Bogong
- * Alpine area - Tali Karng (4WD. access)
- * Horse Safaris - Conflicts with Bushwalkers/Controls
- * Snowpole planning / maintenance
- * C.F.A. - Tech Depth and change to regulations/gas stoves
- * Hotham - Regulation System
- * M.M.B.W. - Walking Tracks access in catchments
- * F.C.V. and others - Submission for road closures

CONTINUED UPGRADING OF ALPINE WALKING TRACK

The Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation, Brian Dixon, announced today a \$10,000 grant to the State Forestry Commission. The grant is to be used for further development of the Alpine Walking Track and for the upgrading and maintenance of walking signs.

The track traverses the high country of Victoria extending from the Baw Baw Plateau across the Victorian Alps to N.S.W. and the Australian Capital Territory.

The grant will be used to complete the re-routing of the Alpine Track from the Old Wombat PO site south around the Darmouth Dam, the construction of a feeder track from the Thompson River to Poverty Point Ridge, the widening of the track on the Black River and Mount Skene sections at Hayfield, and the upgrading of the track at Myrtleford, Bright and Corryong.

Mr. Dixon said that the track is a valuable community asset providing recreation and enjoyment to many thousands of people. It serves as a backbone to many side tracks branching to points in the Alps that are of particular natural beauty and historic interest.

Gentleman Walkers take note; be warned of what is to come!

On Ian Stewart's walk along the Waggs Range the Womens Libbers found great support for their cause.....

Man in his rightful place.

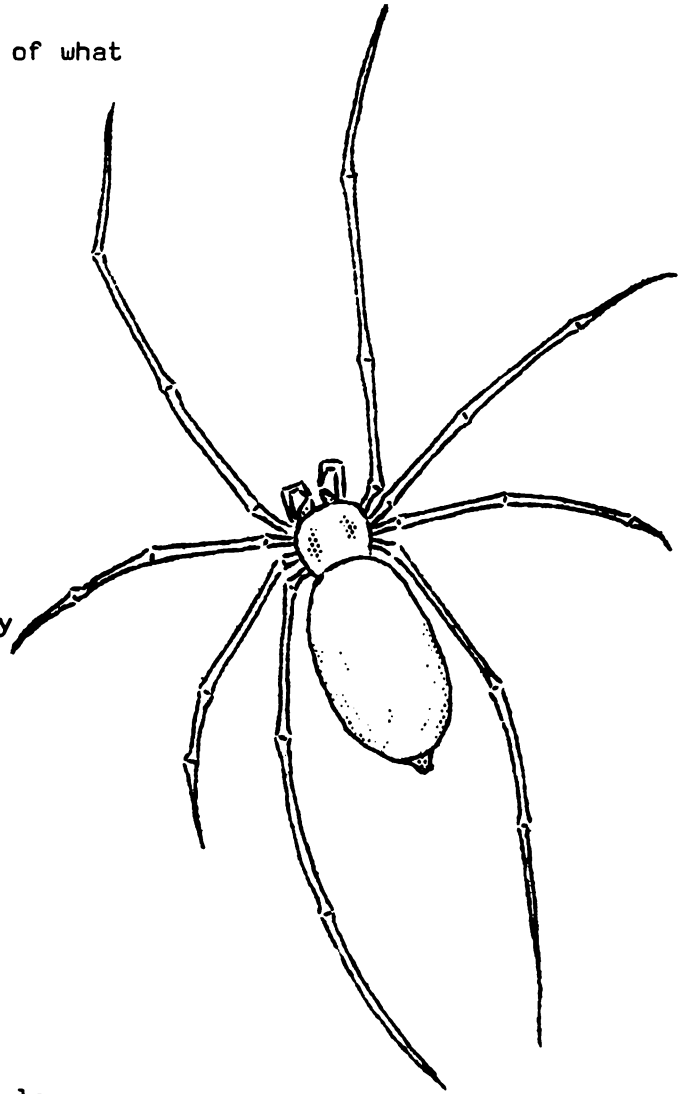
We all stood round a large dark yellow web whose strands seemed as strong as nylon. There hanging in the middle was a large female spider, perhaps the largest spider that many of us had ever seen.

Its scientific name is Nephila or The snarer of Birds. In few groups of spiders is there a greater disparity in the sizes of the sexes. The male is a puny insignificant pygmy who lurks well below the main net. We observed two or three of these diminutive creatures waiting their opportunity to serve their great mate.

Keith McKeown from the Australian Museum describes the mating procedure of these spiders in his book 'Australian Spiders, their lives and habits' as follows:-

"The male, my observations lead me to believe, invariably approaches the female from the rear, and should he get near enough without his presence being detected, he takes a flying leap, which usually lands him on one of her long hairy legs, up which he nimbly scrambles, and ensconces himself upon her broad back. Established, he contents himself for a while by wandering round in an apparently aimless manner as though taking stock of his situation. Time now, at least, has ceased to be a matter of paramount importance! His mate appears in no way to resent his presence; in fact she is completely indifferent. Perhaps she is unaware of the pygmy seated so insolently upon her body. Then, apparently emboldened by her indifference, he attempts to move towards the undersurface of her body, an action which she so resents that she immediately shows fight, while the male, in apparent terror, scrambles hastily back to his secure perch, and awaits a further opportunity. I have seen the female, when thoroughly aroused, make repeated efforts to dislodge the intruder by combing her broad back with one of her long banded legs, attempts which he usually manages to elude by slipping round to the other side.

Again and again he may make these assaults upon her virtue, only to be repulsed just as often. He may not always escape scathless; his adventure may cost him a couple of legs, but even this price does not seem to deter him. At last he slips beneath her great paunch, and applies his palps, previously charged with the life giving fluid. The deed is done! and he hurries back to his original position.



The next problem is to make his escape; his temerity has certainly placed him in an uncomfortable position. At last he makes a dash for safety, and effects his escape - or does not."

Is this what we males have to look forward to?

A gradual evolution from handsome, strong, masculine, marlborough men to puny insignificant pygmies, lurking in lanes waiting to serve.

R.F.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

Rates for this year are as follows:-

Members 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.

1979/1980 SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM

Please complete and post to Membership Secretary, Melbourn 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.

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