



# THE NEWS

OF THE  
MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 493

MARCH 1992

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## \*\*\*\*\* YOUR CLUB 1992 \*\*\*\*\*

### *Office bearers and Committee:*

President  
Vice Presidents

Secretary  
Treasurer  
Walks Secretary  
Assistant Walks Secretary  
Membership Secretary  
Social Secretary  
Wilky Manager  
News Convenor  
Ordinary Members

Jean Giese  
Janet Norman  
Alan Clarke  
Derrick Brown  
Keith Lloyd  
Max Casley  
Alan Miller  
Chris Lynch

Graeme Thornton  
Gina Hopkins  
Alan Miller  
Liz Telford  
John Kittson  
Rebecca Marshall  
Mary Leonard

Auditors

Rosemary Cotter  
Mark Walters

### *Club Walks & Activities:*

Day walk  
Weekend pack carry or base camp  
Extended weekend pack carry  
or base camp  
Dandenong Explorers  
Mid-week day walk  
Historical walks

Every Sunday  
2-4 per month

Public holidays  
Saturday, 3rd of each month  
Wednesday, once per month  
Saturday, once per month

Track clearing  
Navigation skills day  
Broadford - Yea run  
Ski touring  
Canoe trips/Lilo trips  
Social events

Twice per year  
Twice per year  
Once per year  
Throughout winter  
Christmas  
Throughout the year

### *Decision on club van versus hire bus:*

After much discussion, a motion was passed at the A.G.M. (by 32 votes to 23) to retain and operate the club van until a serious breakdown occurs which is uneconomic to repair, and then alternative arrangements will be made by the Committee.

Correspondence should be directed to:

The Secretary  
Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc.  
PO Box 1751Q  
MELBOURNE 3001

Meetings are held in the clubrooms, Mackenzie St Melbourne (rear of the Horticultural Society building) every Wednesday night 7.00-9.00 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome.

Please note that articles for "The News" may be faxed to the News Convenor on

Closing date for the April edition is Wednesday 29 March 1992.

## **"THE MELBOURNE BUSHIES - 50 YEARS ALONG THE TRACK"**

We now have almost all contributions on the desktop publishing system - some 64,000 words. Editing has commenced and Barbara will be in contact with authors as necessary. This process will take several months. Meanwhile....

### **PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION !**

*The Bushies 50 year history book needs a whizz-bang cover!!!*

- Do you have it in your collection now?
- Can you take it soon?
- A colour slide would be best, but a print will do.
- It will be a wrap-around cover.
- The photograph must have clear connections with the Melbourne Bushies.

**Also:**

Do you have any good / funny / interesting / momentous photographs that could be included in the text? Early photographs are especially sought and those showing differences from our current activities, e.g. showing a link between *walkers* and *trains* used for transport in the 40's and 50's.

Also *equipment* - do you have a photograph of a boot with a full array of *tricounis* ? Or an A-frame pack or a *yukon* pack in use?

Enter them too for the *best inside prize*.

**Weds April 29th** - hand in your masterpieces to Bill Metzenthon or Sylvia Wilson.

**Weds May 6th** - exhibition and slide show: prizes awarded

***The more the merrier!***

Please label all photographs clearly with your name and address for safe returning.

**DAY WALKS - APRIL 1992****SAT. 4 APR 92 HISTORICAL WALK: BACK CREEK EASY**

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER  
 TRANSPORT : TRAM - 70 MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 1.15 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAYS MAP 60

Both West and Back Creeks pass a number of features of historical and continuing interest such as the famous Golf Links Estate, the original Walhalla station building and the jungly Blood Gully.

The two hour walk will start and finish at Highfield Park (Melways 60E2 - tramstop 58).  
 Bring a picnic afternoon tea.

**SUN. 5 APR 92 NAVIGATION DAY EASY**

LEADER : NIGEL HOLMES  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.

Look out for details of the Navigation Day in the clubrooms, or contact Nigel at work

This day is an excellent opportunity to learn and/or practise your skills in the bush. It should be great fun and is strongly recommended.

There will be an instruction evening on Thursday 2nd April.

**SUN. 12 APR 92 FEDERATION DAY: MORNINGTON PENINSULA EASY**

LEADER : BECKY MARSHALL  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 8.30 A.M. \*\*\* NOTE EARLY START \*\*\*  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 7.00 P.M.  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 10 & 14 KM

The Peninsula Bushwalking Club is organising this year's Federation Day walks. Our bus will be dropping us off for two walks in the Cape Schanck area. The easier walk is 10 km, mainly on the beach, from the Pines picnic area to Cape Schanck and return; the other walk is 14 km, from Cape Schanck to Gunnamatta and return. This walk involves some rock scrambling.

After the walks, tea, coffee and light refreshments will be provided. As the organisers need to know approximate numbers for each walk before the day, please decide which walk you would like to do before you book, and if possible, book on Wednesday 1st April.

If anyone wishes to go on any of the other 16 walks being organised please ring Becky at home or see her in the clubrooms for details. You will have to make your own transport arrangements.

Please note early time for bus departure.

**WED.15 APR 92 KILCUNDA BEACH WALK EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : SPENCER GEORGE  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE Meet 8.30 a.m. 9 Albert Crescent, Surrey Hills.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : VICMAP KILCUNDA 1:25,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 15 KM

We will walk along the coast near Kilcunda trestle bridge. Some walking on cliff tops, some on beaches and some alongside a river.

**SUN. 19 APR 92 MT. MACEDON - MORELLA TRACK EASY/MED & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : JOHN KITTSOON & BRIAN KILNER  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN :

For details of this walk, please see leaders in the clubrooms.

**MON. 20 APR 92 KOORNUNG PARKLANDS EASY**

LEADER : ATHOL SCHAFER  
 TRANSPORT : TRAM - 42 MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS BY 9.30 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 4.00 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MELWAY MAP 46

A gentle tour of a string of parks and reserves - some overlooking the Koornung Creek drainage basin, some in the valley itself.

The starting off point is on the high ground at Beckett Park (Melways 46 G7 - nearest tramstop 54). The walk finishes about 4.00 p.m.

**SAT. 25 APR 92 DANDENONGS: MONBULK - JOHNS HILL EASY**

LEADER : MIKE CLODE  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN :

For details of this walk, please contact leader (H)

**SUN. 26 APR 92 MT. WORTH EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADERS : DARRELL ROLFE & LIZ TELFORD  
 TRANSPORT : BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.  
 EXPECTED RETURN : 6.30 P.M.  
 MAP REFERENCE : MT. WORTH RANGER'S MAP  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 12 & 14 KM

The park is a superb pocket of rainforest in the Strzelecki Ranges that has survived the clearer's axe. The walk is on tracks through forests that include tall mountain ash, mountain grey gum and silver wattle, with tree ferns lining the creeks. Bird life is abundant. There are also panoramic views of the green rolling hills of the Latrobe Valley.

Wet weather gear recommended.

**WEEKEND WALKS - APRIL 1992****3-5 APR 92 MT. GRANT - GHOST TOWNS (DARGO AREA) MEDIUM**

LEADER : PETER HAMANN  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING

For details of this walk, please see leader in the clubrooms.

**10-12 APR 92 BENNIES - MT. COBBLER****MEDIUM**

LEADER : MAX CASLEY  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : HOWITT-SELWYN VICMAP 1:50,000, MT. TYPO 1:25,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 25 KM

After crossing the Dandongadale River and a steep climb we will stroll along to Lake Cobbler. Along the way there are views of Dandongadale Falls - the highest in Victoria - where the river spills over the edge of Cobbler Plateau. After visiting the lake we will go to the top of the falls.

We will camp near Mt. Cobbler from which there are panoramic views. On Sunday there will be a steep descent from Mt. Cobbler where the better balanced members of the party will guide us down. Then we go to Little Cobbler and along a fairly open spur to finish at Bennies.

**17-21 APR 92 CROAJINGOLONG - (1) COASTAL WALK****MEDIUM**

LEADER : GRAEME THORNTON  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : TUESDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : CROAJINGOLONG N.P AND APPROACHES 1:100,000 CFL (1988)  
 OTHER REFERENCES: GRANT DA COSTA "CAR TOURING & BUSH WALKING IN EAST GIPPSLAND"  
 TRACK NOTES - SIMON ARNOLD "WALK" 1982 PAGE 82  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 60 KM PLUS ANY SIDE TRIPS

This is a classic coastal walk. Da Costa rates it as 4 days hard. Our Peripatetic Pearson remembers it as 3 days. I want to leave Mallacoota on the Friday about lunch-time. The first 1½ days (to Wingan) are forest/heathland/rock-headland. The last day (Wingan to Thurra) is mostly beach. In between I hope to have an extra day to explore, if the opportunity presents, say around Wingan Inlet. Wingan excepted, most river mouths have sand bars. Da Costa recommends carrying a plastic bag big enough to waterproof the pack in case rivers have to be waded. This year we will almost certainly have to charm a ferryman to get us across the Wingan.

Beware: there may very well be a moonlight trog one night; plus swimming for the heroic, dress optional - but hopefully not so around meal times. Water will have to be carried during the day. Bring water containers (plus charm to pay the ferryman) in case we camp away from water. Allow for camping out on the Monday night and driving home Tuesday.

**17-21 APR 92 CROAJINGOLONG - (2) THURRA RIVER BASE CAMP****EASY**

LEADER : GRAEME THORNTON  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE

I've been very lucky in having been balloted a campsite at Thurra River. There are endless possibilities of coastal and hinterland walking there. The huge sand dunes are spectacular. But there are conditions - the Friday night will have to be elsewhere (say Mallacoota) and the Base Campers have to take the cars from Mallacoota to Thurra to set up residence there on the Saturday. To simplify things (i.e. avoid a complicated car shuffle) and to try and minimise cars, Base Campers with space for non base camp passengers will get first option.

Communal fireplaces (and firewood I'm told) are provided but choofers/gas stoves only at the campsite itself. We have the Thurra campsite until the following Saturday so perhaps some (Walkers or Loungers) may care to stay on. The coast toward Tamboon Inlet could bear a little exploration.

Campsite fees will be divided up among the users - approximately \$7 to \$12 each, depending upon numbers and length of stay.

**17-21 APR 92      BOGONG HIGH PLAINS WALK-IN BASE CAMP      EASY & MEDIUM**

LEADER : ALAN CLARKE  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE CARS  
 EXPECTED RETURN : MONDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : BOGONG ALPINE AREA LEISURE MAP 1:50,000  
 APPROX DISTANCE : VARIOUS

This will be a short walk-in of 1-2 km to a base camp, although the exact location has not yet been decided. We will do a series of easy (not bludge) day walks to explore the wonders of the high country. Magnificent views and snow gums are on the menu. Likely points of interest include Mt. Cope, Spion Kopje, Wilky and parts of the Alpine Walking Track.

This camp will suit those wanting to make the leap into extended walking, but please note that numbers may be limited. The weather at this time of year can be very inclement, so adequate gear is essential.

**17-21 APR 92      MT. REYNARD - SHAW CREEK FALLS - CALEDONIA RIVER      MEDIUM**

LEADER : PHIL LARKIN  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : TUESDAY EVENING  
 MAP REFERENCE : VICMAP 1:50,000 TAMBORITHA MOROKA, VMTC 1:50,000 SNOWY PLAINS  
 APPROX DISTANCE : 60KM

The Wonnangatta-Moroka section of the Alpine National Park encompasses some of the most spectacular alpine scenery within Victoria. The landscape is dominated by mountain scenery from high plateaus, tranquil lakes, waterfalls hidden in the deep valleys, numerous peaks along the mountain ranges and windswept snow plains which have evolved over the countless ages. The features range from the snowgum woodlands with its twisted limbs and the alpine heathland with a magnificent display of wildflowers to the deep river valleys with rugged gorges, towering cliff lines, spectacular waterfalls and secluded pools.

Over the four days we will visit some lesser known gorges around the Snowy Plains area such as in the upper reaches of Shaws Creek and East Caledonia River. The walk will start from Tamboritha Saddle and proceed down into the remote Caledonia River valley, then continue north along the valley to the East Caledonia River before leaving this beautiful valley to proceed to Mt. Reynard and visit one of the hidden gorges. From this point the walk will cross many smaller snow plains such as Holmes and Bennison Plains, passing numerous cattlemen huts to finish the walk back at Tamboritha Saddle.

Please remember to bring along equipment and clothing suitable for winter conditions.

**24-26 APR 92      BAW BAW PLATEAU WALK-IN BASE CAMP      EASY/MEDIUM**

LEADER : GRAHAM BREEN  
 TRANSPORT : PRIVATE  
 EXPECTED RETURN : SUNDAY EVENING

For details of this walk, please see leader in the clubrooms.

**CONTRATULATIONS**

to Helen and Chris Thompson on the birth of their daughter, Adelaide, in early February.

*Meryl Wimpsey*

**FREEZER FOR SALE**

Zanussi 3 drawer upright freezer (same size as standard dishwasher), perfect working order \$150

Derrick Brown or Mark Walters

## STOP PRESS

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- WHAT** : THE MARYSVILLE WEEKEND
- WHERE** : THE MOUNTAIN LODGE GUEST HOUSE
- WHEN** : Arrive after dinner Friday 19th June  
Depart after lunch Sunday 21st June.

*For full details regarding the weekend and bookings,  
please see next month's "NEWS".*

*Michael Humphrey*

### **WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADOPT?**

a frog, a lizard, an orchid, a possum, a fern, a bandicoot, a whale, a tree, a glider, a tern, a daisy, a butterfly, a wallaby, a bat or a whole forest!!

#### **ADOPTING A SPECIES COULD SAVE IT.**

#### Friends of Flora and Fauna Groups

Many of our native species are threatened with extinction. Others need special care to guarantee their future. The Victorian National Parks Association is promoting the formation of special "Friends" groups for species. The VNPA recognises that there is a need for small locally based groups to play a vital role in protecting plants, animals and ecosystems which are endangered.

#### What "Friends" Can Achieve

- Find out what species are endangered and adopt an animal or plant to save.
- Undertake research and implement ideas to protect the species.

- Promote your group in the media and levels of government.
- Encourage others to join the group and promote the cause.

#### Are You Interested in Doing Something?

As bushwalkers we all appreciate the beautiful areas we walk in and enjoy seeing native animals and plants in the wild. The VNPA is challenging us to do more: to be aware of our endangered species and to help protect them.

There are many Victorian plants and animals in need of "Friend" groups. The leadbeater possum, the long-footed potoroo, the orange bellied parrot, Baw Baw frog, Dean's wattle, bald-tip beard orchid and swamp she-oak are all threatened species in Victoria.

#### **WHICH PLANT OR ANIMAL CAN YOU SAVE?**

Contact Liz Telford or VNPA 654 6483 for more information.

### **RE-UNION RE-UNION RE-UNION**

Liz Shaw is returning to Australia for a brief visit and we are hoping to organise a re-union for April 1st or 2nd. Anyone interested, please ring Doug Pocock ( ) for further details.

### **NATIVE PLANT SALE**

Wholesale nursery selling excess stock.  
6" pots for \$1.00 and \$2.50. Also tubs at 80c.  
14-15 and 21-22 March, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.  
55 Railway Pde, Wandin North (Melway 119 C10)

## **LCC WILDERNESS SPECIAL INVESTIGATION FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The LCC released its final recommendations on Victorian Wilderness areas in early December. Space forbids any more than a basic resume of points of interest to the club, and anyone wanting more detail should seek out a copy in the club-rooms or elsewhere.

The Final Recommendation has a few areas included as proposed Wilderness that are additional to those in the Proposed Recommendations earlier last year, including the north east area of Wilson's Promontory. The total area recommended for Wilderness is still only a relatively small portion but much is areas that club members like to walk in.

Happily, it is proposed that Wilderness areas be available for a range of recreational uses, but not including those requiring motorised vehicles, bicycles or introduced animals such as horses and dogs. The report rightly recognises the validity of these activities but points out that there is ample space for these in other areas. Nor is exploration and mining of earth resources allowed.

As in other such investigations, this has in part been a process to gauge public reaction to the proposals. While we are not a conservation group, if we want to continue to enjoy our bush we must be prepared to help counteract the pressures being applied to government by other groups whose interests run contrary to ours. It is therefore pleasing to note that many bushwalkers, including our own members, put pen to paper to put forward our view. There can be no doubt that our efforts did make an effect.

While full details of the thrust of submissions were not revealed, the following gives some indication of the responses. This is a breakdown of the responses from Recreation Groups:

Bushwalking -	16
Hunting -	12
Vehicles -	19
Horses -	8
Fishing -	6

We await the result of the recommendations with interest.

*Alan Clarke*

## **SKI LODGE FOR RENT**

### **at Falls Creek**

**Luxurious 12 bed self-contained ski lodge**

**now available at a much reduced summer rental of**

**\$90 per day.**

**2 double bedrooms, 2 bunk rooms,  
2 bathrooms, large balcony,  
fully equipped kitchen,  
large outdoor spa.**

**Bookings are also available for the 1992 ski season.**

**Call Dean Hewett**



**ALONG THE TRACK****AROUND WILSONS PROM IN A DAY 21-23 FEB 1992**

Just after 7.30 a.m. on Saturday morning we set off from Tidal River along the bitumen road section of the walk to Telegraph Saddle. The sun at this stage was already starting to make an impact on us, it was going to be a hot day. The first stop was a very short rest at Windy Saddle for the leader to catch up to the rest of the party. We then set off down the other side of the saddle, through semi rainforest to Sealers Cove where our first swim of the day took place.

At the look out between Sealers Cove and Refuge Cove we came across David Lindsay's group, who were doing the same circuit as us but only at a slower pace. After a quick chat we were off again down the hill to morning tea and another swim at North Refuge Cove.

The next swim was going to be at North Waterloo Bay but first we had to climb up to Kersop Peak, during the hottest part of the day, but once there the views were well worth the slog. Arriving at North Waterloo Bay just after 1 o'clock, lunch was called.

After a swim and lunch, we were soon off again following the coast around Waterloo Bay, where a snake crossed right between Spencer and myself, a distance of only a couple of feet, making me jumping back with Spencer continuing on, then looking around to see what all the noise was about.

The last swim on that side of the Prom was at the beach at Freshwater Creek before heading across the Prom, along Waterloo Bay walking track across Boulder Saddle to Oberon Bay for another swim at the beach there. Roy at this point said goodbye and was last seen running along the beach towards Tidal River. We soon set off after him but not at the same pace, arriving back at Tidal River around 7.00 p.m.

Sunday was spent looking at the museum at the Ranger's Office first thing in the morning, and then a drive in the car up to Telegraph Saddle and a walk to the top of Mount Oberon. Next we drove back down the hill to Lilly Pilly Gully where we walked the Lilly Pilly Gully nature walk and a side trip up to Mound Bishop and back to the car. Where my feet had enough of walking for one weekend so said goodbye to the rest of the party as they walked back to Tidal River via the Tidal Overlook, Pillar Point walking track.

A total of 58 km was walked over the weekend with 5 swimming stops on the Saturday.  
Party: Spencer George (leader), Stephen Rowlands, Marilyn Whimpey, Bill Metzthen, Roy Treloar

*Stephen Rowlands*

**NEW MEMBERS**

The Club would like to welcome the following new member:

Ed Little

**CHANGES OF INFORMATION**

Wendy Rees

John Kowarsky

Stephen Down

Jane Fraser

## **WALK A WILDERNESS**

As one of Australia's oldest and most basic Safari operators, we enjoy providing a special service for Bushwalkers. This service is unique in that it allows the average weekend bushwalker to walk in the most isolated and wildest areas of Australia.

This is possible because we provide all of the equipment that is needed to do these walks. Equipment that you personally might not be able to afford.

With our travel anywhere expertise, excellent catering, portable navigation equipment and communications, the wilderness just waits for you to walk in it! At around \$550.00 per week, all inclusive, you can even afford it!

Most Walking Safaris are for two weeks. In this time you can do up to six or more different walks for one, two or three days. There is no need to backtrack, we drive to pick you up. If you don't want to walk you can stay with the vehicles and have just as enjoyable a time.

The small party size also adds to the overall enjoyment.

Write for more information and when you do, help us to expand our service by telling us the areas you feel would be great to walk.

**Write to:**

**WILD COUNTRY SAFARIS  
CARMILA  
QUEENSLAND 4739**

## COMMITTEE NOTES - 2 MARCH 1992

## CORRESPONDENCE IN :

Mark Walters - auditor's report

## CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

none tabled

## WALKS REPORT FOR JANUARY:

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
172	139	33	154	18	\$1488

## TREASURER'S REPORT AT 29 FEBRUARY 1992:

FEBRUARY RECEIPTS:	\$	\$
		2,145
FEBRUARY PAYMENTS MADE/TO BE RATIFIED:		
Bills paid	680	
Bills to be paid	<u>2,556</u>	<u>3,236</u>
BALANCE:		
Current Account	3,407	
Reserves Account	43,000	
Postage float	<u>500</u>	<u>46,907</u>

## COMMITTEE DUTIES:

Janet will arrange the first meeting of the Conservation sub-committee with Liz, Alan and Mary. It's important role will be to co-ordinate activities arising through Victorian National Parks Association (VNPA), Wilderness Society, Conservation Council of Victoria (CCV) and Australian Conservation Foundation. (ACF) Other duties: Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (VicWalk) Alan and Athol, Equipment hire Becky, Transport Jean, John to liase with Stephen on Search & Rescue, John to liase with Nigel on Track Clearing. The position of Social Secretary is still being considered.

## DUTY ROSTER:

Mar	11	Jean & Mary
Mar	18	Alan & John
Mar	25	Janet & Jean
Apr	1	Becky & Alan
Apr	8	Gina & Derrick

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 6 April 1992 at 7.00pm

**STOP PRESS:**

1 On the Federation Day Walk on Sunday 12 April the van will be leaving at 8.30am, half an hour earlier than usual, so that we can arrive in time for the walks organised. This might cause problems for those using public transport. If so let the leader, Becky Marshall, know so that alternative transport can be arranged.

2. The Winter Walks Program is now being considered. If you have any bright ideas for walks in June, July or August please let Max Casley know.

3. 1992 membership subscriptions are now due and payable within the next three months. (March, April or May). Our new Membership Secretary Chris Lynch will be available each club night between 7 and 8 pm to receive payments. Rates are unchanged at: Ordinary memberships \$27, Concession memberships \$ 18, Couples \$39 and News subscribers \$15.