

THE NEWS

OF THE

MELBOURNE BUSHWALKERS INCORPORATED

EDITION 501

NOVEMBER 1992

PRICE 60 C

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PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND 11-13 DECEMBER HUGHES CREEK (NE Seymour)

The President invites all members to join her for either the whole or part of this weekend. Sunday walks (bus as usual) will combine with the-weekenders.

FEATURES -

- Choice of 3 lovely walks on Saturday and 3 on Sunday easy, medium and medium/hard. Leaders: Max, Janet, Sylvia, Alan Miller
- Walk-in base camp beside creek (45 mins along Hughes Creek), arriving Friday evening or Saturday morning. Saturday walks leave from campsite at 10.00 a.m.
- Pre-dinner nibbles and drinks provided by President Saturday evening, plus fruit salad. BYO everything else.
- Afternoon tea provided at conclusion of Sunday walks at picnic spot near Hughes Creek where there is parking for bus and cars. Sunday walks commence at various points on road.
- Swimming in Hughes Creek.
- Happy time, celebration, meet old and new Bushies.

Hope everyone can come.

BOOKING ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING AND PLANNING

Jean Giese, President

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 December edition is Wednesday 2 December 1992.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The "Packing a Weekend Pack Demonstration" on Wednesday 14th October turned into a fun night as Stephen Down and I emptied the contents of our packs onto the table and surrounding floor. It looked just like those early mornings in the bush when the leader's cry is heard, "20 minutes"! There were lots of helpful (and ribald) suggestions from the large audience about what should and shouldn't find a place in the pack, and disbelief that all that junk could be stuffed back in or ever be found when wanted. We hope many are encouraged to give it a go.

* * * * * * *

The thick snow still lying around and recent heavy rains wrecked most of our Cup Weekend plans. Alternatives were quickly put in place and we hope everyone found something to his/her liking.

SICK LIST - A number of our members have been on this and we're glad to report are now coming good. Our best wishes to Anne Bullard, Merle Halls and Dorrie Warton. I must tell you more about Dorrie as she was "wounded on active service"!

Leading the Saturday Dandenong Explorers walk on 26th September, she headed her group into the Emerald Opportunity shop! This is an innovation on a "bushwalk" but maybe it was because Spencer was in the company and she hoped to persuade him to replace his holey jumper! However, the result was disastrous as Dorrie tripped on the sharp brick steps, hitting her knee cap. True Dorrie style, she soldiered on, putting Tyrone in charge and giving him directions from Spencer's car whenever the group came within sight of a road. She also played host for afternoon tea, as planned, from the sofa. We are sorry to have to report that the injury

proved serious and Dorrie has had to have her patella wired up and battle with plaster and crutches. She is with her daughter in Beechworth and we all send our best wishes, Dorrie. Our thanks to Spencer, Tyrone and others who helped out are seconded by Michael Humphrey, the coordinator for Saturday walks.

Jean Giese, President

STOP PRESS

Extract of letter just received from Dorrie....

RMB 1177 Beechworth 3747

Thank you for your letter and concern for me. I am quite well but chomping at the bit waiting for bones to knit before I undergo the second lot of surgery to remove the spare parts not then required (about Nov 15 I am told). So it will be a while before I am back in harness again. It annoys me that I can't even carry a glass of water and manage 2 crutches at the same time!

Remember me to the gang. See you at Christmas.

Dorrie

FOR SALE

Men's Scarpa boots, size 45 (10 and a half)

Only worn twice. Price \$180 (retail \$259)

Phone Jean Giese

MILESTONE "NEWS"

We noticed that the last copy of "NEWS" was another milestone for the Club - the 500th issue. This is nearly 42 years of bringing news, information and previews (and reviews) to the members, an extremely important function in our Club.

Congratulations to the Editor who is following, very capably, all those who have done this so well in the past. Also congratulations to the production teams who over the years have typed, printed, collated, addressed and posted all 500 issues of "NEWS". Thanks to you all.

Poug Pocock
Jan Llewelyn

WHEN BOOKING BY MAIL

Members are reminded that when booking by mail they should include FULL details, including name and contact number (on a separate sheet please) in case of problems. We have had more than one occasion of someone booking by mail, the bus was full, and the Club's records had an old number! Fortunately, there was room on the day.

Of course, it is always best to book at Club nights if you can. It makes it much easier for leaders, and then you know that you are booked in.

Alan Clarke, Treasurer

ANOTHER NEW LEADER HAS JOINED THE RANKS!

Congratulations Elizabeth Spriggs (Betty to her friends)...

With her new found leadership skills down Anglesea way on Sunday 8 November pushed on bravely and galiantly (sic) in the face of a hot day and with 33 keen walkers under her wing. I was told one even fainted trying to keep up with her pace "indeed"...

Also heard on the grapevine that a certain "Charlie" was very proud of her effort. Keep up the good work and we hope to see you leading in the not too distant future.

Kitty Kat

The pack carry campaign continues....

COOKING DEMONSTRATION

WEDS 2 DECEMBER 1992

This is a chance to find out what culinary delights are possible on a pack carrying trip, and to see a range of different stoves in action.

A number of fine cooks who pack carry will bring their preferred stoves and cook a typical meal.

This event will take place in the garden outside the Clubrooms at 8.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER 1992 AT PHILIP LARKIN'S PLACE on the banks of Kananook Creek, Seaford

Time: 6.00 p.m. at finish of a historical walk in the Frankston area - see Walks Previews.

So that supplies can be properly arranged please contact Phil by Monday 20 November - (BH) or (AH).

BYO drinks only. They may be left at Phil's during the walk which leaves Seaford at 3.00 p.m.

***** ALL WELCOME *****

CHRISTMAS PARTY 23 DECEMBER

More details in December NEWS

CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Many Club members will remember Jamie Pittock, he gave a most interesting talk in the Clubrooms last year on the Alpine areas in Victoria and the threats to them.

Jamie is no longer with the Victorian National Parks Association but has taken up an equally gruelling job as Campaigns Coordinator for the Northern Territory Environment Centre in Darwin. Some would have seen Jamie last September on ABC TV's "Lateline". He was one of the speakers on a program focussed around the endangered Gouldian Finch. The Finch is a most spectacularly coloured little bird, with flashes of blue and red around its head. It was very common throughout the NT, North Western Australia and Northern Queensland. They are now on the endangered species list.

One of the two remaining small breeding areas is around Mt Todd, now proposed to be mined by Zapopan. The main threat is from the new "fast-track" development introduced by the Federal Government. Mt Todd will be the second project "fast-tracked", the first being the port at McArthur.

By itself, the "fast-tracking" isn't the problem, it is whether the guidelines are followed or not - with McArthur the baseline study wasn't done until AFTER the "fast-track" approval. If this is repeated it could be fatal to the Gouldian Finch. As Zapopan Chief Executive Terry Strapp made clear on the "Lateline" program, Zapopan will not stop mining even if it is later shown that the bird is severly affected.

Please consider writing a short note to the Prime Minister, Paul Keating and/or the Federal Environ-ment Minister, Rus Kelly (both c/o Parliament House, Canberra). It doesn't have to be a long note, the briefer the better. For example, it could simply request that the Gouldian Finch not be endangered by the "fast-tracking of the Mt Todd development. Additional points would be no approval be given until baseline studies have been performed and debated, and that the endangered species act presently before Parliament be strengthened.

Whilst this particular issue is restricted to the NT, "fast-tracking" and the endangered species act are just as applicable anywhere in Australia.

Last but not least, I'd like to extend an invitation to anyone to attend the Conservation Sub-Committee meetings. They are held approximately every 2 months, are informal and highly non-structured (ie. chaotic). The next will be in the Clubrooms at 7.30 p.m. on the last Wednesday in January (1993).

Graeme Thornton

LOGGING PLANNED AT DONNA BUANG

Yes, fellow bushies, more unsightly degradation to the landscape. APM own 200 HAs on the southern slopes of Mt Donna Buang and they plan to harvest /log the land over several years in 15 HA lots.

APM has applied to get the land rezoned to enable the logging. Management plans will be on display at the Upper Yarra Shire offices late November. Those living in the area may want to call into the Shire Offices and see the plans. The logging will definitely be an unnecessary scar on the landscape and clearly visible from Warburton.

Liz Telford

DAY WALKS - DECEMBER 1992

SAT. 5 DEC 92 HISTORICAL WALK: KANANOOK CREEK AND CHRISTMAS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

EASY

LEADERS

: ATHOL SCHAFER & PHILIP LARKIN

TRANSPORT

MEET UNDER THE CLOCKS IN TIME TO CATCH THE 1.56 P.M. TRAIN TO SEAFORD

Meet 3.00 p.m. at Seaford station. Starting and finishing at Seaford, the route will be to Frankston along the dune path and beach, and return via Long Island and the Kananook Track to Phil's place where there are riverside barbeque facilities.

Please advise by 30 November if you are staying for the barbeque: Athol

. Phil

(BH)

SUN 6 DEC 92 ERICA -THOMPSON RIVER - WALHALLA

EASY/MED & MEDIUM

LEADERS

: JOHN KITTSON & ART TERRY

TRANSPORT

BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 8.30 A.M.

*** NOTE EARLY START ***

EXPECTED RETURN:

8.00 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE :

WALHALLA 1:25,000

APPROX DISTANCE:

11 & 14 KM

Our path for the day will be along the old disused railway line which back in 1910 ran between Moe, Erica and the now ghost town of Walhalla. The final leg of the walk will take us along the Alpine Walking Track. Tall mountain timber and fern gullies will be a part of the scenery for this walk. For the fit ones, a detour to the Walhalla Cricket Ground perched on top of a hill some 200 m above the township.

Fresh water could be scarce, so best to bring your own supply.

SUN 13 DEC 92 PRESIDENT'S DAY: WAGGS RANGE - HUGHES CREEK

VARIOUS

LEADERS TRANSPORT JEAN GIESE, ALAN MILLER & SYLVIA WILSON BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.

EXPECTED RETURN:

7.15 P.M.

:

MAP REFERENCE

MT STEWART & MT BERNARD 1:25,000

APPROX DISTANCE:

VARIOUS KM

See separate notice on front page - President's Weekend.

WED 16 DEC 92 TRACK 4A - RICHARDS TRAMLINE

E/MED & MEDIUM

LEADER

ROSEMARY & TREVOR THOMSON

TRANSPORT

: PRIVATE

MEETING PLACE

8.30 A.M. JEAN GIESE'S, 9 ALBERT CRES, SURREY HILLS, OR

9.45 A.M. BIG PATS CREEK PICNIC GROUND 6.00 P.M.

EXPECTED RETURN:

MAP REFERENCE :

VICMAPS O'SHANNASSAY, ADA RIVER 1:25,000 (SEE ALSO VICWALK NEWS JULY 92)

APPROX DISTANCE: 17 KM

Richards Tramline was built to carry timber out from the Starvation Creek area from 1916-1936. Its route became visible after the '83 fires, but within 2 years became covered again with thick regrowth. Due to the efforts of the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (including MBW) from 1987-1992, the route is now "quite traversable".

Our walk will start with a climb from the Upper Yarra valley (with views) in two steep but not overlong sections, followed by a gradual descent along the tramline as it winds around the contours above Mississippi Creek. Forest debris can make for slow going here; we may opt to exit the tramline after the first section for a faster return via Mississippi Road.

MT DONNA BUANG - MT VICTORIA - CEMENT CK SUN 20 DEC 92 **MED & MED/HARD**

LEADERS JOHN KITTSON & MARGARET BORDEN TRANSPORT BUS FROM SOUTH BANK BLVD. AT 9.00 A.M.

EXPECTED RETURN: 7.30 P.M.

JULIET SOUTH 1:25.000 MAP REFERENCE :

APPROX DISTANCE: 10 & 15 KM

The medium/hard group will start in Warburton at the suspension bridge over the Yarra, followed by a fairly steep climb through tall Mountain Ash country to the summit of Mt Donna Buang. The medium walkers will begin their trek from the 6 mile turntable at Cement Creek, making their way up and onto the Boobyalla Saddle, along fern covered tracks and through some of the ancient Myrtle Beech forests which grow on the slopes of this splendid mountain country. Both parties will re-group at the summit and be able to take a breather, enjoying the views from the top of the Fire Lookout Tower which is 4080 ft or 1250 m above sea level.

If time permits, I would like to take a short detour and introduce you to the Melbourne Walking Club Hut, which is well hidden in the dense mountain forest, a short distance from the summit. The walking will all be on bush tracks, definitely no trail bikes, and I can promise you will hear the local lyrebirds. Pure fresh running mountain water can be found and consumed without fear, but as a back-up, please bring some of your own.

WEEKEND WALKS - DECEMBER 1992

4-6 DEC 92 **WABONGA PLATEAU**

EASY

LEADER

MERILYN WHIMPEY

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

EXPECTED RETURN: MAP REFERENCE

9.00 P.M. SUNDAY NIGHT VMTC WABONGA PLATEAU

It will be enjoyable. That's all I know at this stage. There are ups and downs and waterfalls and should be lots of wildflowers.

11-13 DEC 92 PRESIDENT'S WEEKEND - HUGHES CREEK

VARIOUS

LEADERS

JEAN GIESE, MAX CASLEY, JANET NORMAN, SYLVIA WILSON

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

EXPECTED RETURN:

7.15 P.M.

MAP REFERENCE

MT STEWART & MT BERNARD 1:25,000

APPROX DISTANCE:

VARIOUS KM

See separate notice on front page - President's Weekend.

18-20 DEC 92 **TIDAL RIVER BASE CAMP**

EASY

LEADER

MICHAEL MANN

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

EXPECTED RETURN:

SUNDAY EVENING

MAP REFERENCE

WILSONS PROM OUTDOOR LEISURE MAP

APPROX DISTANCE : ? KM

Bludge - Plenty of walks along the beach, tracks or to look outs. Swimming, eating, socialising - the Prom has everything (even hot showers for those less hardy).

We will probably have a BBQ Saturday night on one of the electric BBQ's.

KOWMUNG RIVER - BLUEGUM FOREST (NSW) 26 DEC 92 - 3 JAN 93

MEDIUM

LEADER

: SPENCER GEORGE

TRANSPORT **PRIVATE** APPROX DISTANCE: 100 KM

This is a walking and swimming trip in mountainous uninhabited country. There will be spectacular sandstone cliffs, pink granite swimming holes, many waterfalls and pleasant company.

If you have a week to spare at Christmas then ask Spencer for details before 5 December (

).

31 DEC 92 - 3 JAN 93 PARKER RIVER BASE CAMP

EASY

LEADER

JOHN ROSEMAN & GEORGE MATTHEWS

TRANSPORT

PRIVATE

This weekend would ideally suit those who like to eat freshly caught fish, such as snapper, whiting and bay trout, after a morning or afternoon's walk along the coast. As well, there is a popular swimming hole near by in Parker River.

For more information you can contact either John or George in the clubrooms.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

With the preparation of our 50 year history has come, as one would expect, much looking back into the past, thinking about the present and pondering the future. One aspect of the Club which members have mentioned has been that we haven't appointed any life members for a long time, as well as asking how do we appoint them and how does one qualify. Nominations do not come from the Committee but from any member of the Club.

For the benefit of new members and old members who haven't read the Club's constitution (actually called 'Statement of Purpose and Rules'), here's what it says about life membership:

- "2. (2)(a) Life membership may be conferred on any person as a mark of high esteem and in appreciation of exceptional services to the Association.
 - (b) Life membership may only be conferred by resolution of an extraordinary, halfyearly 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.
 - (c) A life member shall be exempt from payment of annual subscriptions and entrance fees."

We have no definition of what exceptional services means and, of course, there are many who have not had the recognition of "Life Member" who do, and have done, an enormous amount for the Club. Indeed, where would we be without Suggestions have been flowing around about how to define exceptional services, forms of recognition other than life membership, setting a limit on the number of life members, etc. Members may like to think more about this, but for the time being we have our "Rules" and are obliged to work within them.

Two suggestions the Committee would like to make are:

- 1. that any member who wishes to propose another member for life membership would have that nomination in the hands of the Secretary in time to go in the January News. The proposal must be seconded and agreed to by the nominee.
- 2. The person making the nomination should prepare for publication in News a short statement of the "exceptional services" the member being proposed has rendered to the Club over the years (this will be helpful to newer members especially) and be at the general meeting to speak to the proposal.

Jean Giese, President

WILKY REPORT NOVEMBER 1992

I am going to have little time between now and the AGM in February so I though now might be a good time to report on Wilky for 1992 - plus there are some matters here that members might like to think about, then comment on.

- 1. Due to the persistence of the snow this year, I've extended the period for winter groups to get last seasons remaining food supplies out of their lockers until the middle of March 1993. Please don't leave it there for someone else to removethis will be looked upon rather darkly.
- 2. Locker contents. There were a few problems with locker contents last winter. Most vegetables go off in the lockers and removing a rotting pumpkin or bag of onions from a packed locker and disposing of it is no fun. If you want fresh vegies please carry them in with you. A cask of red wine dripped itself empty into the 2 lockers below, pressure from packing seemed to have cracked the valve open slightly. Take care in packing.
- 3. The trial of the new Winter key system (leaders passing the keys on directly to the leader of the group 2 weeks after them) worked very well so we will use it again next year. Peer pressure is far more effective than any amount of leader-haranguing by the lodge manager. It also does away with the cumbersome \$50 key deposit, much to the relief of the Treasurer, leaders and me.
- 4. Booking is still a problem. This year there were 12 full Winter weeks plus a part 13th group. There are only 10 normal size plus 2 smaller lockers so Wilky can't take any more. There was much enthusiasm and a little disappointment for one or two at not being able to book in with a group as most groups filled quickly. In the end most were fitted in but this year there were a large number of "no shows".. Not all the "no shows" paid their fees upfront so next year I plan to slightly modify the booking system.

Names can only be put on the booking list after the accommodation deposit has been paid (just like the Sunday walk system). Accommodation is only part of the costs for the leader - there is still the food which has to be paid for. If a group has "no shows" then this can make it expensive for the rest of the group.

Next year I want each leader to collect at least \$100 off each group member, this will then test the bonafides of the applicant and make the finances much easier for the leader. I collect

- \$150 off each member and there is a small refund of the balance at Wilky. It works wonders as everyone gets "paid" to come to Wilky.
- 5 Visitors in groups. Over the last few years we have allocated 3 winter weeks to outside groups. In addition to this some member weeks have had a fair proportion of non-members among them. I see no real long term problem with this for if members don't use Wilky then we could have more external groups. However, I've had a few complaints about not being able to get into groups because of the large proportion of visitors in some "member" groups.

To evaluate whether this is really a problem or not and how much demand there is from members, I propose a new priority system from next year. Winter group bookings normally start in March (a week or two after the AGM) and remain open until full. From next year I propose that for the 2 weeks following the opening of bookings that Club members have priority over non-members. This applies only to groups led by members, the non-member groups are obviously upto the outside groups to organise. After 2 weeks it is on a "first-in" basis.

- 6. Wood usage was a problem this year. Wilky's woodshed can't quite hold enough wood to get through the winter period. Extra wood is stacked outside but this wood gets buried under feet of snow (metres this year) and is wet and unseasoned. This year the earlier groups went through the wood at an alarming rate, possibly because of spending more time inside because of bad weather. I can't think of an effective way to control or ration the wood supply so I think we may have to go back to a wood/briquette mixture. Some will remember the drudgery of taking 120 kg of briquettes in with the supplies. I think next year each winter group will have to bring in say 40 kg of briquettes with their supplies. Sorry, but there seems no alternative.
- 7. The stove. Each year that the stove gets us through winter I'm very pleased. I'm afraid that one year perhaps it won't last through and we can all imagine the consequences of that. The main casting is cracked in at least 3 places and the firelighters in each group will have noticed that it can no longer be turned down to a slow idle air leaks in through the cracks setting a minimum rate. This may be a contributing factor in the wood usage as some groups still try to keep it stoked up overnight or burning all day. I would like to replace the stove in a

controlled way before it forces us into it. This is a fairly massive job as the old and new stoves are both heavy and awkward and the kitchen alcove is built around the stove. I would like to nominate, say, Australia Day 1994 for this job. In the meantime, a replacement has to be selected. I think we need a quality stove that can be relied upon. How to determine reliability is a problem. I would welcome comments or experiences (good and bad) with various alternative brands and models.

8. The logbook saga. We have many options. The logbooks and contents are mainly of interest to people when they are at Wilky and then primarily only their own entries. Dougo Pocock has been through all the old logbooks and extracted any stuff of general interest which will appear as a chapter in the 50th year history. The general consensus is that it is best to have the original logbooks at Wilky. I'm in favour of

providing a fire retardant box to house them in. If Wilky gets burnt down then I for one will be more upset by the loss of Wilky than the loss of logbooks. Alex Rolfe left us a bequest of £100 and as Alex specifically mentioned Wilky in his will it was thought that Wilky would be an appropriate recipient of the bequest and that it could be put toward a suitable container.

It would cost around \$140-\$190 to get the logbooks onto microfilm or microfiche. Getting prints would be a problem with this. If someone were kind enough to offer to photocopy them then the only problem would be providing storage space in the Clubrooms - there are 3 books of about 350 foolscap pages each.

Graeme Thornton, Wilky Lodge Manager

LEAKING PARKAS - WASH & IRON YOUR GORETEX!!

Recent heavy rains have been a severe test for parkas and many people have found that even expensive Goretex models have been found wanting. Rod Mattingley has just bought a new Goretex and has given me a copy of the Care Instructions.

The main points are:

- Machine or hand wash in warm water. No special detergent is needed. This removes dirt and oil which affect the parka's performance.
- · Drip dry or tumble dry on warm setting.
- Steam iron warm (yes, seriously)

New parkas have a water repellent finish which causes water to bead and run off as globules rather than soak in. This allows the parka to breathe, whereas a water-logged parka does not breathe as well. The water repellent finish wears off after a while but can be restored by heat. So, after

cleaning, warm tumble dry or, better still, use a warm steam iron. Eventually you may need to use a water repellent spray to restore the beading effect.

After reading these instructions I washed my parka and an amazing amount of grime came out. Then it was rinsed, drip-dried and warm tumble dried for 10 minutes. My iron does not steam properly on warm settings so I ironed (wool setting) the parka through a damp cloth. Then I quickly rubbed the iron over the damp parka. No, it didn't stick to the iron. Testing under a tap, the beading has improved but is not nearly as good as new. Maybe a respray of repellent is needed.

Give it a try and see if you have better luck. If it doesn't work at least we will look smart in our clean ironed parkas!

By the way, David Vincent can get you a japara parka for about \$35 - a lot cheaper than Goretex.

Max Casley, Walks Secretary

along the track

MT BOGONG IN WINTER 2-4 OCT 1992

Driving along the Kiewa Valley Highway from Wilky and other High Plain trips, I have always looked across at Mt Bogong and wondered what it would be like to climb to the top of the highest mountain in Victoria, but climbing it in winter with skis on never crossed my mind on those occasions.

But there I was at 8 o'clock Saturday morning, the sun shining and without a cloud in the sky, as we set off on our four wheel drive trip from the camp site at Mountain Creek to Camp Creek Gap. From the vehicles we set off up Eskdale Spur, stripping clothes off as we slowly climbed towards the snow line. Snow was soon countered a couple of kilometres along the track but most of the party didn't start skiing until the ground levelled out a little more up the mountain. Some three hour's after Camp Creek Gap, the group made camp just above the tree line from Michell Hut. Our tent city was soon constructed and a well-deserved lunch was enjoyed.

After lunch we climbed the last of the mountain, and there I was standing for the first time on the top of Victoria with views of Mt Feathertop, the Bogong High Plains and the Kosciusko Main Range without a cloud in the sky. While most of

the party enjoyed themselves on the slopes of Cairn Creek Gully, I skied around the top of the ridge in both directions from Eskdale Point, taking the views of the snow-capped mountains in all directions as I skied along. By the time I arrived back at camp that night I was very tired and sunburned but enjoyed every minute of the day.

The next day when we awoke it was overcast and rain could be seen in the distance, but the clouds were still high in the sky at that stage, so we decided to ascend the mountain after breakfast. But the minute we arrived on the top of Eskdale Point, the clouds rolled in so we skied down Cairn Gully to escape the clouds but it was too late, the rain had already set in by the time we reached the bottom. After sitting next to a rock cliff face trying to keep dry we decided to head back to the tents and have lunch. After a quick lunch, tents were taken down and the trip down was soon under way. The journey down was a lot easier than the trip up, and in no time at all we were back at the cars, thus ending another great adventure.

Stephen Rowlands

NATIONAL PARKS IN N.S.W. AND S.E. QUEENSLAND

In September I drove to the Gold Coast south of Brisbane and on the way I briefly visited parks which provide interesting breaks in a long journey. The Warrumbungles, at the half-way point, are a good place to camp. There are well marked tracks to spectacular rock formations, such as the Bread Knife, with a choice of walks from very short to all day. Water is a problem for overnight trips.

In Queensland the highway crosses the Dividing Range through Cunningham Gap National Park. I recommend the walk to Mt Mitchell, 3 hours return, which lead up to a point on the scenic rim with 360° views.

Girraween National Park in the Granite Belt, south of Stanthorpe near the NSW-Queensland border, is well worth visiting. There is a good range of walks to do. I did a 2 hour walk to the Pyramid (1080 m) past seemingly precariously balanced granite boulders. There were wonderful swimming holes in the creeks and camping ground was good with hot showers.

Some people may remember Tom Kralnes who was in our Club until he move to Brisbane in about 1977. I joined him in an enjoyable day walk in Mt Barney National Park. It was quite a climb up Mt Barney (1453 m) but the views were worth it. A friendly mouse and lizard shared our lunch at the opt. There were pockets of rainforest in the gullies.

These short walks give just a glimpse of what is available to our north.

Max Casley, Walks Secretary

WILLIS'S WALKABOUTS SUBARCTIC SPECIAL

Alaska, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories: August - September 1993

Relax and enjoy the scenery as you canoe 350 km down the Yukon and Teslin Rivers. Good fishing, easy paddling, no rapids that can't be avoided.

Bushwalk through the mountain ranges along the Dempster Highway, North America's northernmost public road.

Cruise through the fiords of southeast Alaska with their spectacular mountain and glacier scenery.

Wander through the Tongass National Forest where you can walk, boat or fly to remote wilderness cabins.

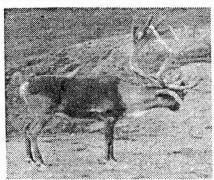
There is no rigidly fixed itinerary on this tour. If some place is especially nice, we have the flexibility to spend extra time there.

Write for full details.

Willis's Walkabouts 12 Carrington Street, Millner NT 0810 Phone (089) 85 2134 Fax (089) 85 2355







NEW MEMBERS

The Club would like to welcome the following new members:

Elizabeth Geary

Margaret Cox

Tania Hoyaux

CHANGES OF INFORMATION

Karen Parry

Trevor & Rosemary Thomson

Michael Brooks

Tom & Hannah Broughton

Denise Triffett

COMMITTEE NOTES - 9 NOVEMBER 1992

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

Jeff Kennett & Mark Birrell - see Notice Board G.R.Geake - requesting info about MBW Search & Rescue report Federation - minutes Spencer George - life membership ideas Dorrie Warton - reply to Jean's letter

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

Mrs Colwill - letter of thanks Mercantile Mutual - van insurance Dorrie Warton - tripped entering Opportunity Shop

TREASURER'S REPORT AT 31 OCT 1992:

\$ \$ 3,220 OCTOBER RECEIPTS: **OCTOBER PAYMENTS:** 3,566 **BALANCE:** 8,766 **Current Account** 52,000 Reserves Account 61,266

WALKS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER:

Postage float

Total	Day walkers	W/E walkers	Members	Visitors	Fees
210	161	49	170	40	\$1543

500

TRANSPORT:

Review underway to look at other bus companies closer to the city.

WILKY:

No report.

50 YEAR PUBLICATION:

No report

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Club contact - the Bullards will not continue next year - answering machine to be purchased for next contact. Life membership issues discussed, including ideas from Spencer.

DUTY ROSTER:

Nov	18	Jean & Gina
Nov	25	Liz & Merilyn
Dec	2	Janet & Alan M
Dec	9	Becky & Chris

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 7 December 1992 at 7.00pm